The Mystery of the Spicy Kitten Snack

Grade 1 math · Addition, Subtraction, Skip counting, Place value, Missing addends · Reading level grades 1-2

Detective: _____ **Date:** _____

Someone swiped Chef Whiskers famous spicy jalapeno cat treats! Help the detective cat squad solve the puzzle and find the sneaky thief.

1. Solve each math problem. The answer is a number, and the letter beside it is what that number stands for.
2. In the clue boxes, write that letter in every box showing the same number, then read the secret clue.
3. Use each clue to cross suspects off the list. The one suspect left at the end is the culprit!

My answer: the snack thief is _____

Possible suspects

Cross off a row as each clue rules it out. The one left at the end is the culprit.

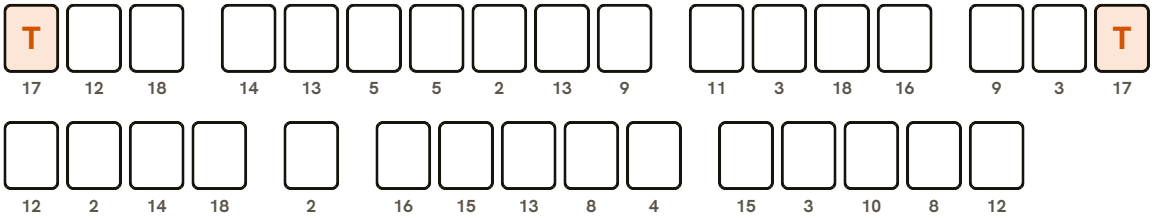
NAME	SNACK WEAPON	NINJA GEAR	PAWEDNESS	FUR COLOR	WEAKNESS
Peanut	Wasabi Paste	Red Collar	Left Pawed	Calico Fur	Ice Water
Penelope	Chili Dust	Oven Mitts	Right Pawed	Midnight Black	Sour Lemons
Willow	Chili Dust	Spicy Pouch	Left Pawed	Orange Tabby	Ice Water
Charlie	Wasabi Paste	Red Collar	Right Pawed	Midnight Black	Cold Milk
Daisy	Pepper Spray	Chef Hat	Left Pawed	Calico Fur	Cold Milk
Mittens	Chili Dust	Spicy Pouch	Left Pawed	Calico Fur	Cold Milk
Toby	Jalapeno Dip	Oven Mitts	Left Pawed	Calico Fur	Cold Milk
Bella	Pepper Spray	Oven Mitts	Left Pawed	Midnight Black	Sour Lemons
Whiskers	Jalapeno Dip	Oven Mitts	Left Pawed	Calico Fur	Ice Water
Ziggy	Wasabi Paste	Oven Mitts	Left Pawed	Calico Fur	Cold Milk
Shadow	Chili Dust	Bell Tag	Left Pawed	Calico Fur	Sour Lemons
Tiger	Jalapeno Dip	Bell Tag	Left Pawed	Calico Fur	Sour Lemons
Luna	Chili Dust	Chef Hat	Left Pawed	Calico Fur	Cold Milk
Milo	Jalapeno Dip	Spicy Pouch	Left Pawed	Midnight Black	Sour Lemons
Rosie	Jalapeno Dip	Spicy Pouch	Left Pawed	Orange Tabby	Ice Water
Simba	Chili Dust	Bell Tag	Right Pawed	Calico Fur	Ice Water
Socks	Salsa Splash	Oven Mitts	Right Pawed	Calico Fur	Cold Milk
Oliver	Jalapeno Dip	Oven Mitts	Left Pawed	Calico Fur	Sour Lemons
Cleo	Pepper Spray	Chef Hat	Right Pawed	Calico Fur	Cold Milk
Barnaby	Wasabi Paste	Bell Tag	Left Pawed	Calico Fur	Sour Lemons
Pumpkin	Chili Dust	Red Collar	Left Pawed	Midnight Black	Cold Milk

make your own at mathcrackers.com

CLUE 1 Addition

Chef Whiskers adds up the remaining spicy treats to find a hidden code.

Solve each problem, then write its letter in every clue box that shows the same number.



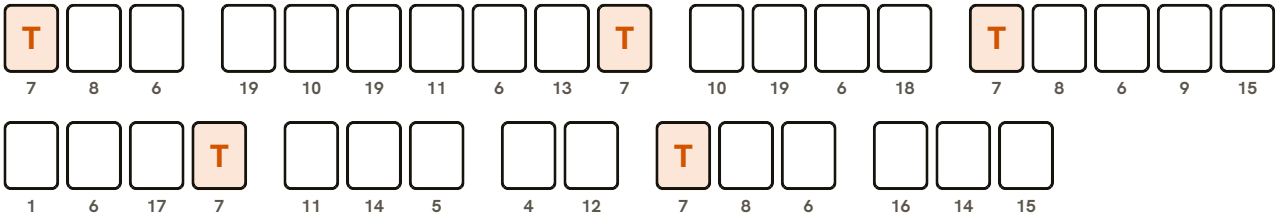
10 + 7 = ☐ → T	1 + 1 = ☐ → A	8 + 7 = ☐ → P	8 + 8 = ☐ → S
5 + 4 = ☐ → N	10 + 3 = ☐ → I	8 + 10 = ☐ → E	
2 + 6 = ☐ → C	3 + 8 = ☐ → D	6 + 4 = ☐ → U	4 + 8 = ☐ → H
4 + 10 = ☐ → V	2 + 2 = ☐ → Y	2 + 1 = ☐ → O	1 + 4 = ☐ → L

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Subtraction

Detective Barnaby takes away eaten snacks to reveal a secret note.

Solve each problem, then write its letter in every clue box that shows the same number.



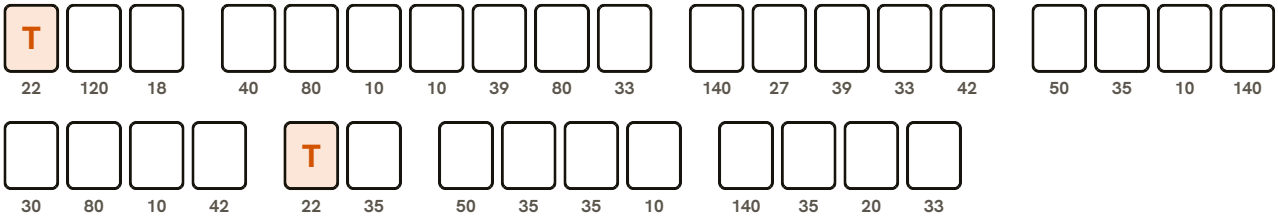
12 - 5 = ☐ → T	5 - 1 = ☐ → O	18 - 4 = ☐ → A	18 - 7 = ☐ → P
19 - 3 = ☐ → J	13 - 1 = ☐ → N	19 - 1 = ☐ → D	
15 - 2 = ☐ → C	9 - 3 = ☐ → E	20 - 1 = ☐ → S	9 - 4 = ☐ → W
15 - 5 = ☐ → U	7 - 6 = ☐ → L	20 - 5 = ☐ → R	13 - 5 = ☐ → H
18 - 1 = ☐ → F	18 - 9 = ☐ → I		

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Skip counting

> We count fuzzy paw prints by twos along the cafe hallway.

Solve each problem, then write its letter in every clue box that shows the same number.



Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, ___, 24, 26 ☐ → **T**

Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, ___, 40, 45 ☐ → **O**

Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, ___, 30, 33 ☐ → **R**

Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, ___, 42, 45 ☐ → **A**

Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, ___, 90, 100 ☐ → **I**

Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, ___, 36, 39 ☐ → **N**

Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, 130, ___, 150, 160 ☐ → **D**

Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, ___, 60, 70 ☐ → **C**

Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, ___, 12, 14 ☐ → **L**

Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, ___, 33, 36 ☐ → **M**

Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, ___, 20, 22 ☐ → **E**

Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, ___, 130, 140 ☐ → **H**

Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, 39, ___, 45, 48 ☐ → **K**

Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, ___, 22, 24 ☐ → **W**

Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, ___, 45, 50 ☐ → **V**

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Place value

A digital lock shows tens and ones on the snack vault door.

Solve each problem, then write its letter in every clue box that shows the same number.

D														D
51	65	25	65	27	25	29	78	65	40	62	46	83	74	51

					D												
40	25	66	64	74	51	40	46	62	27	64	19	29	27	46	62	83	66

What number has 5 tens and 1 one? ☐ → D

What number has 7 tens and 8 ones? ☐ → V

What number has 2 tens and 7 ones? ☐ → C

What number has 1 ten and 9 ones? ☐ → L

What number has 2 tens and 9 ones? ☐ → I

What number has 7 tens and 4 ones? ☐ → N

What number has 4 tens and 0 ones? ☐ → S

What number has 6 tens and 4 ones? ☐ → A

What number has 6 tens and 2 ones? ☐ → F

What number has 6 tens and 5 ones? ☐ → E

What number has 8 tens and 3 ones? ☐ → U

What number has 2 tens and 5 ones? ☐ → T

What number has 6 tens and 6 ones? ☐ → R

What number has 4 tens and 6 ones? ☐ → O

Scratch space:

CLUE 5 Missing addends - the last clue

> We need a few more crunchy bits to balance the scale and get a tip.

First solve each problem. Then find each answer in the numbered list below and cross that sentence out. One sentence will be left - that is exactly what the villain did!

Step 1 - solve these:

10 + ___ = 12 ☐	3 + ___ = 7 ☐	7 + ___ = 16 ☐	8 + ___ = 13 ☐
7 + ___ = 8 ☐	2 + ___ = 13 ☐	2 + ___ = 5 ☐	9 + ___ = 15 ☐
9 + ___ = 19 ☐	3 + ___ = 15 ☐	9 + ___ = 16 ☐	

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain blew chili dust, then jingled a bell tag.
2. The villain sprayed jalapeno dip, then put on oven mitts.
3. The villain blew chili dust, then packed a spicy pouch.
4. The villain blew chili dust, then straightened a chef hat.
5. The villain tossed salsa splash, then put on oven mitts.
6. The villain squirted pepper spray, then put on oven mitts.
7. The villain wiped wasabi paste, then jingled a bell tag.
8. The villain squirted pepper spray, then straightened a chef hat.
9. The villain wiped wasabi paste, then put on oven mitts.
10. The villain blew chili dust, then put on oven mitts.
11. The villain tossed salsa splash, then adjusted a red collar.
12. The villain tossed salsa splash, then straightened a chef hat.

TEACHER / PARENT

Answer Key

The Mystery of the Spicy Kitten Snack

Culprit: Daisy

Pepper Spray · Chef Hat · Left Pawed · Calico Fur · Cold Milk

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 17 → Clue 2 12 → Clue 3 5 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Addition): "THE VILLAIN DOES NOT HAVE A SPICY POUCH"

10 + 7 = 17 (T) · 1 + 1 = 2 (A) · 8 + 7 = 15 (P) · 8 + 8 = 16 (S) · 5 + 4 = 9 (N) · 10 + 3 = 13 (I) · 8 + 10 = 18 (E) · 2 + 6 = 8 (C) · 3 + 8 = 11 (D) · 6 + 4 = 10 (U) · 4 + 8 = 12 (H) · 4 + 10 = 14 (V) · 2 + 2 = 4 (Y) · 2 + 1 = 3 (O) · 1 + 4 = 5 (L)

Clue 2 (Subtraction): "THE SUSPECT USED THEIR LEFT PAW ON THE JAR"

12 - 5 = 7 (T) · 5 - 1 = 4 (O) · 18 - 4 = 14 (A) · 18 - 7 = 11 (P) · 19 - 3 = 16 (J) · 13 - 1 = 12 (N) · 19 - 1 = 18 (D) · 15 - 2 = 13 (C) · 9 - 3 = 6 (E) · 20 - 1 = 19 (S) · 9 - 4 = 5 (W) · 15 - 5 = 10 (U) · 7 - 6 = 1 (L) · 20 - 5 = 15 (R) · 13 - 5 = 8 (H) · 18 - 1 = 17 (F) · 18 - 9 = 9 (I)

Clue 3 (Skip counting): "THE VILLAIN DRANK COLD MILK TO COOL DOWN"

Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, ___, 24, 26 = 22 (T) · Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, ___, 40, 45 = 35 (O) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, ___, 30, 33 = 27 (R) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, ___, 42, 45 = 39 (A) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, ___, 90, 100 = 80 (I) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, ___, 36, 39 = 33 (N) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, 130, ___, 150, 160 = 140 (D) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, ___, 60, 70 = 50 (C) · Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, ___, 12, 14 = 10 (L) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, ___, 33, 36 = 30 (M) · Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, ___, 20, 22 = 18 (E) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, ___, 130, 140 = 120 (H) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, 39, ___, 45, 48 = 42 (K) · Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, ___, 22, 24 = 20 (W) · Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, ___, 45, 50 = 40 (V)

Clue 4 (Place value): "DETECTIVES FOUND STRANDS OF CALICO FUR"

What number has 5 tens and 1 one? = 51 (D) · What number has 7 tens and 8 ones? = 78 (V) · What number has 2 tens and 7 ones? = 27 (C) · What number has 1 ten and 9 ones? = 19 (L) · What number has 2 tens and 9 ones? = 29 (I) · What number has 7 tens and 4 ones? = 74 (N) · What number has 4 tens and 0 ones? = 40 (S) · What number has 6 tens and 4 ones? = 64 (A) · What number has 6 tens and 2 ones? = 62 (F) · What number has 6 tens and 5 ones? = 65 (E) · What number has 8 tens and 3 ones? = 83 (U) · What number has 2 tens and 5 ones? = 25 (T) · What number has 6 tens and 6 ones? = 66 (R) · What number has 4 tens and 6 ones? = 46 (O)

Clue 5 (Missing addends): surviving statement is box 8 → Daisy

10 + ___ = 12 = 2 · 3 + ___ = 7 = 4 · 7 + ___ = 16 = 9 · 8 + ___ = 13 = 5 · 7 + ___ = 8 = 1 · 2 + ___ = 13 = 11 · 2 + ___ = 5 = 3 · 9 + ___ = 15 = 6 · 9 + ___ = 19 = 10 · 3 + ___ = 15 = 12 · 9 + ___ = 16 = 7