The Sky Island Mystery

Grade 3 math · Rounding, Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, Division · Reading level grades 3-4

Detective: _____ **Date:** _____

Someone snuck into Cloudtop Academy and snatched the golden skychart! Help the Junior Sky Rangers examine clues and catch the culprit.

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 sky bandit is _____

Possible suspects

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

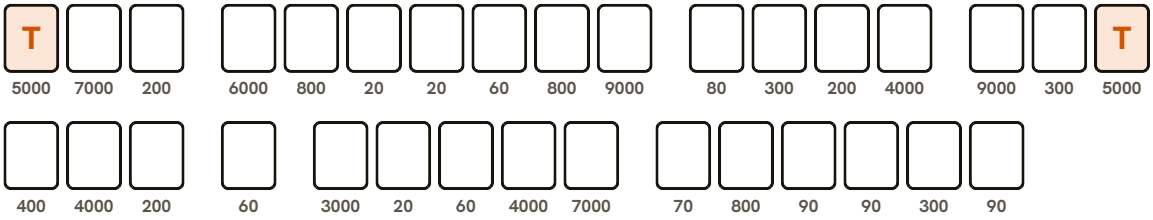
NAME	GEAR	GADGET	DOMINANT HAND	HAIRSTYLE	DISLIKE
Cadet Chloe	cloud boots	flash mirror	left handed	spiky red	bright flashlight
Captain Barnaby	grapple hook	flash mirror	right handed	braided brown	loud whistle
Lookout Luke	magnetic compass	smoke bombs	right handed	spiky red	bright flashlight
Commander Cole	grapple hook	smoke bombs	left handed	braided brown	loud whistle
Tracker Toby	cloud boots	decoy map	right handed	spiky red	bright flashlight
Aviator Axel	cloud boots	decoy map	right handed	braided brown	sudden splash
Scout Sam	magnetic compass	rope net	right handed	buzz cut black	loud whistle
Pilot Penny	glider wings	flash mirror	right handed	buzz cut black	loud whistle
Cadet Leo	magnetic compass	rope net	right handed	spiky red	bright flashlight
Detective Dan	magnetic compass	decoy map	right handed	braided brown	bright flashlight
Rookie Rex	pulse lantern	smoke bombs	right handed	buzz cut black	sudden splash
Tracker Trent	cloud boots	smoke bombs	right handed	spiky red	sudden splash
Agent Abby	pulse lantern	flash mirror	left handed	spiky red	bright flashlight
Sentry Felix	magnetic compass	fog whistle	left handed	buzz cut black	bright flashlight
Pilot Piper	glider wings	rope net	right handed	braided brown	bright flashlight
Explorer Eva	magnetic compass	fog whistle	right handed	buzz cut black	sudden splash
Scout Stella	grapple hook	fog whistle	left handed	buzz cut black	loud whistle
Explorer Ella	glider wings	rope net	right handed	buzz cut black	sudden splash
Officer Olivia	cloud boots	rope net	right handed	spiky red	bright flashlight
Mechanic Max	pulse lantern	fog whistle	left handed	spiky red	bright flashlight
Agent Arthur	glider wings	flash mirror	right handed	spiky red	bright flashlight

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CLUE 1 Rounding

The radar scanner only gives estimated distances rounded to the nearest ten.

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



Round 5,174 to the nearest thousand ☐ → T

Round 780 to the nearest hundred ☐ → I

Round 2,777 to the nearest thousand ☐ → F

Round 411 to the nearest hundred ☐ → U

Round 81 to the nearest ten ☐ → D

Round 208 to the nearest hundred ☐ → E

Round 330 to the nearest hundred ☐ → O

Round 20 to the nearest ten ☐ → L

Round 87 to the nearest ten ☐ → R

Round 6,808 to the nearest thousand ☐ → H

Round 67 to the nearest ten ☐ → M

Round 58 to the nearest ten ☐ → A

Round 6,035 to the nearest thousand ☐ → V

Round 9,438 to the nearest thousand ☐ → N

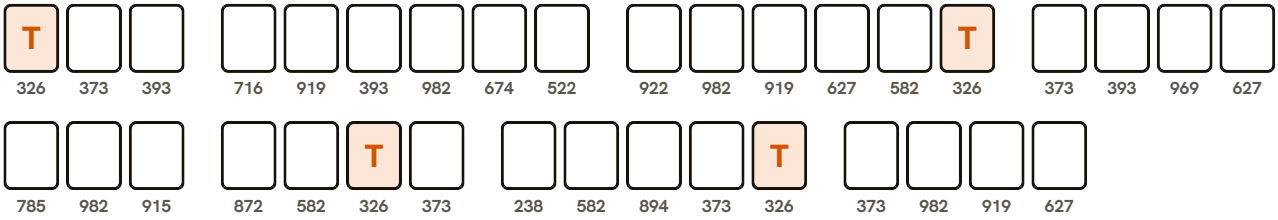
Round 4,162 to the nearest thousand ☐ → S

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Addition

You add up the trail tokens dropped near the airship hangar.

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



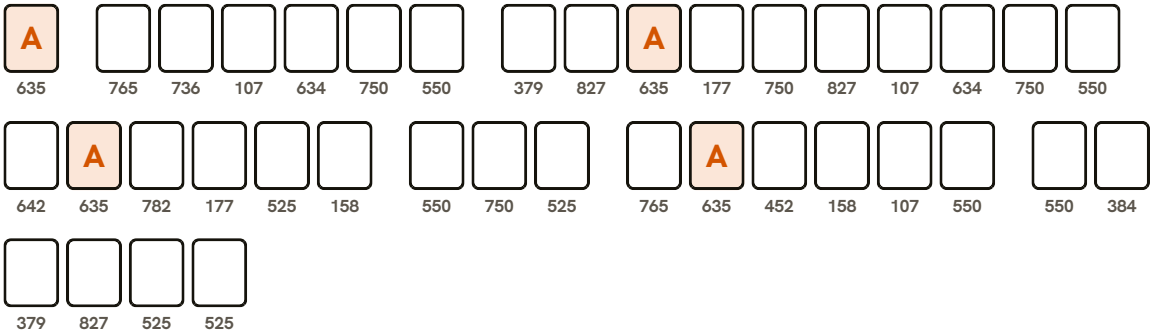
145 + 181 = ☐ → T	146 + 227 = ☐ → H	577 + 295 = ☐ → W
245 + 471 = ☐ → S	354 + 431 = ☐ → M	397 + 585 = ☐ → A
254 + 139 = ☐ → E	584 + 310 = ☐ → G	403 + 566 = ☐ → L
266 + 316 = ☐ → I	416 + 499 = ☐ → P	297 + 622 = ☐ → N
379 + 295 = ☐ → K	429 + 493 = ☐ → B	237 + 390 = ☐ → D
198 + 324 = ☐ → Y	152 + 86 = ☐ → R	

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Subtraction

You count the missing gear crates from the supply deck inventory.

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



1031 - 396 = ☐ → A

481 - 29 = ☐ → N

1020 - 270 = ☐ → H

199 - 92 = ☐ → I

625 - 246 = ☐ → F

782 - 46 = ☐ → R

178 - 20 = ☐ → D

799 - 34 = ☐ → B

437 - 260 = ☐ → S

727 - 343 = ☐ → O

999 - 217 = ☐ → U

673 - 39 = ☐ → G

1038 - 396 = ☐ → C

813 - 263 = ☐ → T

908 - 383 = ☐ → E

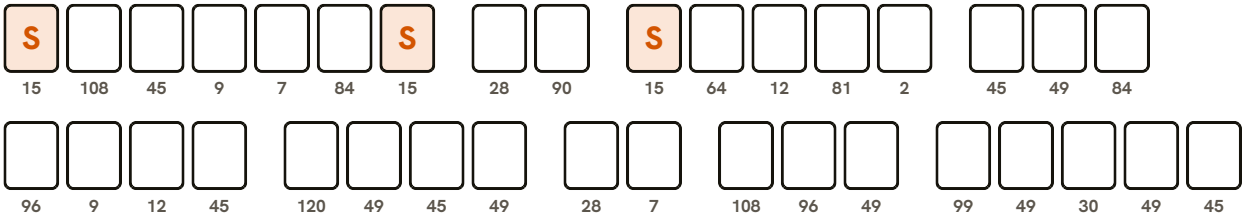
1045 - 218 = ☐ → L

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Multiplication facts (1-12)

You inspect the grid of cloud anchors along the sky dock.

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



3 × 5 = ☐ → S

12 × 10 = ☐ → W

7 × 7 = ☐ → E

12 × 9 = ☐ → T

8 × 8 = ☐ → P

2 × 1 = ☐ → Y

8 × 12 = ☐ → H

9 × 11 = ☐ → L

7 × 12 = ☐ → D

3 × 3 = ☐ → A

9 × 9 = ☐ → K

4 × 3 = ☐ → I

4 × 7 = ☐ → O

9 × 5 = ☐ → R

9 × 10 = ☐ → F

5 × 6 = ☐ → V

1 × 7 = ☐ → N

Scratch space:

CLUE 5 Division facts (1-12) - the last clue

You divide the leftover map fragments evenly among the explorer teams.

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:

11 ÷ 1 = ☐	40 ÷ 4 = ☐	4 ÷ 4 = ☐	40 ÷ 5 = ☐	10 ÷ 5 = ☐
63 ÷ 7 = ☐	48 ÷ 12 = ☐	15 ÷ 3 = ☐	21 ÷ 7 = ☐	144 ÷ 12 = ☐
24 ÷ 4 = ☐				

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain bounced on cloud boots, then threw a rope net.
2. The villain used a grapple hook, then blew a fog whistle.
3. The villain glided on wing gliders, then blew a fog whistle.
4. The villain flashed a pulse lantern, then blew a fog whistle.
5. The villain flashed a pulse lantern, then threw a rope net.
6. The villain flashed a pulse lantern, then flashed a mirror.
7. The villain used a magnetic compass, then threw a rope net.
8. The villain glided on wing gliders, then flashed a mirror.
9. The villain used a grapple hook, then threw a rope net.
10. The villain used a magnetic compass, then dropped smoke bombs.
11. The villain bounced on cloud boots, then left a decoy map.
12. The villain used a magnetic compass, then flashed a mirror.

TEACHER / PARENT

Answer Key

The Sky Island Mystery

Culprit: Cadet Leo

magnetic compass · rope net · right handed · spiky red · bright flashlight

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 16 → Clue 2 12 → Clue 3 6 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Rounding): "THE VILLAIN DOES NOT USE A FLASH MIRROR"

Round 5,174 to the nearest thousand = 5000 (T) · Round 780 to the nearest hundred = 800 (I) · Round 2,777 to the nearest thousand = 3000 (F) · Round 411 to the nearest hundred = 400 (U) · Round 81 to the nearest ten = 80 (D) · Round 208 to the nearest hundred = 200 (E) · Round 330 to the nearest hundred = 300 (O) · Round 20 to the nearest ten = 20 (L) · Round 87 to the nearest ten = 90 (R) · Round 6,808 to the nearest thousand = 7000 (H) · Round 67 to the nearest ten = 70 (M) · Round 58 to the nearest ten = 60 (A) · Round 6,035 to the nearest thousand = 6000 (V) · Round 9,438 to the nearest thousand = 9000 (N) · Round 4,162 to the nearest thousand = 4000 (S)

Clue 2 (Addition): "THE SNEAKY BANDIT HELD MAP WITH RIGHT HAND"

145 + 181 = 326 (T) · 146 + 227 = 373 (H) · 577 + 295 = 872 (W) · 245 + 471 = 716 (S) · 354 + 431 = 785 (M) · 397 + 585 = 982 (A) · 254 + 139 = 393 (E) · 584 + 310 = 894 (G) · 403 + 566 = 969 (L) · 266 + 316 = 582 (I) · 416 + 499 = 915 (P) · 297 + 622 = 919 (N) · 379 + 295 = 674 (K) · 429 + 493 = 922 (B) · 237 + 390 = 627 (D) · 198 + 324 = 522 (Y) · 152 + 86 = 238 (R)

Clue 3 (Subtraction): "A BRIGHT FLASHLIGHT CAUSED THE BANDIT TO FLEE"

1031 - 396 = 635 (A) · 481 - 29 = 452 (N) · 1020 - 270 = 750 (H) · 199 - 92 = 107 (I) · 625 - 246 = 379 (F) · 782 - 46 = 736 (R) · 178 - 20 = 158 (D) · 799 - 34 = 765 (B) · 437 - 260 = 177 (S) · 727 - 343 = 384 (O) · 999 - 217 = 782 (U) · 673 - 39 = 634 (G) · 1038 - 396 = 642 (C) · 813 - 263 = 550 (T) · 908 - 383 = 525 (E) · 1045 - 218 = 827 (L)

Clue 4 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "STRANDS OF SPIKY RED HAIR WERE ON THE LEVER"

3 × 5 = 15 (S) · 12 × 10 = 120 (W) · 7 × 7 = 49 (E) · 12 × 9 = 108 (T) · 8 × 8 = 64 (P) · 2 × 1 = 2 (Y) · 8 × 12 = 96 (H) · 9 × 11 = 99 (L) · 7 × 12 = 84 (D) · 3 × 3 = 9 (A) · 9 × 9 = 81 (K) · 4 × 3 = 12 (I) · 4 × 7 = 28 (O) · 9 × 5 = 45 (R) · 9 × 10 = 90 (F) · 5 × 6 = 30 (V) · 1 × 7 = 7 (N)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 7 → Cadet Leo

11 ÷ 1 = 11 · 40 ÷ 4 = 10 · 4 ÷ 4 = 1 · 40 ÷ 5 = 8 · 10 ÷ 5 = 2 · 63 ÷ 7 = 9 · 48 ÷ 12 = 4 · 15 ÷ 3 = 5 · 21 ÷ 7 = 3 · 144 ÷ 12 = 12 · 24 ÷ 4 = 6