

WHAT IS THIS?

solve the mystery
The Case of the Missing Astronaut

Clue #1: Picture Decoder
Write the repeated addition sentence on each line. Then, draw a line to each match.
Last, use the decoder at the bottom to solve the clue.

Clue #2: Right or Wrong?

Clue #3: Detective Report
The astronaut had spent $5 \times 7 = 35$ days in space so far. She was ready to reach her next planet, which was $9 \times 3 = 27$ lightyears away. Her spaceship was only traveling $8 \times 9 = 72$ kilometers per hour right now.
In each box, write the answer to the problem.
1 Correct
2 Correct
3 Correct
4 Correct

Clue #4: The Spaceship
First, write the answer in each box on the spaceship. Then, read what to do in the box at the bottom.

Clue #5: Planet Sort
Write the equation below each array. Then, color the planet the same color as the star it goes with. Tally up how many of each you find in each box.
Cross out the box with the correct key to solve the clue.

$6 \times 3 = 18$	$5 \times 8 = 40$	$3 \times 4 = 12$	$4 \times 3 = 12$	$5 \times 4 = 20$
$2 \times 6 = 12$	$4 \times 5 = 20$	$10 \times 4 = 40$	$2 \times 10 = 20$	$9 \times 2 = 18$

Where Did the Astronaut Go?
Cross out each planet as you solve each clue.

I have 0 moons. Mercury	I have 0 moons. Venus	I have 1 moon. Earth	I have 2 moons. Mars
I have 79 moons. Jupiter	I have 82 moons. Saturn	I have 27 moons. Uranus	I have 14 moons. Neptune

Students complete a series of clues to figure out where the missing astronaut is!

HOW TO PLAY



What Happened?

The astronaut went on a secret mission to another planet, and it's your job to figure out which planet he traveled to. Solve each clue to figure out the mystery. Every time you solve a clue, you will get closer to discovering which planet the astronaut landed on. Cross out the places the astronaut is not located each time you solve a clue. Good luck!

Clue #1: Picture Decoder

Write the repeated addition sentence on each line. Then, draw a line to each match. Last, use the decoder at the bottom to solve the clue.

2x6 7x5 4x4 8x2 4x7 6x7 3x7 8x6 5x9

Answers: 6×7 4×4 8×6 2×6 4×7 7×5 8×2 5×9 3×7

Letters: O U R P L A N E T

The astronaut is not on...

Use this decoder to help you figure out what letter is equal to each picture.

A =	G =	M =	S =	Y =
B =	H =	N =	T =	Z =
C =	I =	O =	U =	
D =	J =	P =	V =	
E =	K =	Q =	W =	
F =	L =	R =	X =	

Where Did the Astronaut Go?

Cross out each planet as you solve each clue.

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I have 79 moons. Jupiter	I have 82 moons. Saturn	I have 27 moons. Uranus	I have 14 moons. Neptune

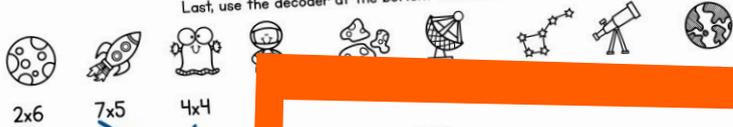
Name: _____

Each time students solve a clue, it will reveal what planet(s) to cross out. When all clues are completed, the mystery of the missing astronaut will be solved!

SKILL PRACTICE

Clue #1: Picture Decoder

Write the repeated addition sentence on each line. Then, draw a line to each match.
Last, use the decoder at the bottom to solve the clue.



2x6 7x5 4x4

Answers: 6×7 4×4 8×4
 $6+6+6+6+$ $4+4+$ $8+$
 $6+6+6$ $4+4$ 8

Letters:

The astronaut is not on...

Use this decoder to help you figure out what letter is equal to each picture.

Clue #3: Detective Report

pent 5×7 ³⁵ days in space so far. She was ready to reach her next planet, 7 lightyears away. Her spaceship was traveling 72 ^{8x9} kilometers per hour. One planet had 70 rings around it, and the next planet would look like, and

56=H	77=E	35=M
70=O	72=O	10=A
32=D	44=K	0=Q
40=P	88=C	30=L
16=N	18=T	75=I
2=Y	25=O	36=F
27=S	63=Z	9=X
5=B	42=G	12=N
11=V	100=J	1=U

Clue #2: Right or Wrong?

$4 \times 3 = 12$	$8 \times 3 = 24$	$6 \times 5 = 30$
$3 \times 10 = 30$	$6 \times 4 = 23$	$9 \times 2 = 81$
$10 \times 2 = 22$	$4 \times 6 = 24$	$5 \times 7 = 35$

In each box, color a thumbs up or a thumbs down to show if the equation and answer are correct.

How many answers were correct?

1 Correct = Cross out Saturn.	5 Correct = Cross out Jupiter.
2 Correct = Cross out Venus.	6 Correct = Cross out Neptune.
3 Correct = Cross out Earth.	7 Correct = Cross out Uranus.
4 Correct = Cross out Mars.	8 Correct = Cross out Mercury.

- Repeated Addition
- Equal Groups
- Skip Counting
- Arrays
- Multiplication Equations
- Space-Themed
- Error Analysis Practice

All clues focus on multiplication strategies!

MULTIPLE VERSIONS

Clue #1: Picture Decoder
Write the repeated addition sentence on each line. Then, draw a line to each match. Last, use the decoder at the bottom to solve the clue.

Clue #2: Right or Wrong?

Clue #3: Detective Report

The astronaut had spent 5×7 days in space so far. She was ready to reach her next planet, which was 9×3 lightyears away. Her spaceship was only traveling 8×9 kilometers per hour right now. 2×6 planets are around it, which made 35 planets in total. The astronaut did not go to a planet with:

16	72	35	70	25	12	27
N	O	M	O	O	N	S

Write each answer above each blank. Then, use the decoder to figure out the message.

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Clue #2: Right or Wrong?

Clue #3: Detective Report

Clue #4: The Spaceship
First, write the answer in each box on the spaceship.

Clue #5: Planet Sort
Write the equation below each array. Then, color the planet the same color as the star it goes with. Tally up how many of each you find in each box. Now, find the correct key to solve the clue!

blue 40	yellow 20	green 12	red 18
$6 \times 3 = 18$	$4 \times 5 = 20$	$10 \times 4 = 40$	$2 \times 10 = 20$
$9 \times 2 = 18$			

Cross out Saturn if this is true:
• 3 blue planets
• 2 yellow planets
• 1 green planet
• 4 red planets

Cross out Neptune if this is true:
• 2 blue planets
• 3 yellow planets
• 3 green planets
• 4 red planets

Cross out Jupiter if this is true:
• 3 blue planets
• 4 yellow planets
• 1 green planet
• 2 red planets

Cross out Mars if this is true:
• 2 blue planets
• 3 yellow planets
• 3 green planets
• 2 red planets

Print & Digital Forms

Clue #1: Picture Decoder
Write the repeated addition sentence on each line. Then, draw a line to each match. Last, use the decoder at the bottom to solve the clue.

Answers: 6×7 , 4×4 , 8×8 , 2×6 , 4×7 , 7×5 , 8×2 , 5×9

Letters: O U R P L A

The astronaut is not on...
Use this decoder to help you figure out what letter is equal to each picture.

Clue #1: Picture Decoder
Write the repeated addition sentence on each line. Then, draw a line to each match. Last, use the decoder at the bottom to solve the clue.

Answers: 6×7 , 4×4 , 8×8 , 6×6 , 7×7 , 5×5 , 2×2 , 9×9 , 7×7

Letters: O U R P L A

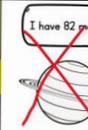
The astronaut is not on...
Use this decoder to help you figure out what letter is equal to each picture.

Short & Long Options

2 MATH FACT OPTIONS!

Where Did the Astronaut Go?

Cross out each planet as you solve each clue.

I have 0 moons.  Mercury	I have 0 moons.  Venus	I have 1 moon.  Earth	I have 2 moons.  Mars
I have 79 moons.  Jupiter	I have 82 moons.  Saturn	I have 27 moons.  Uranus	I have 14 moons.  Neptune

Name: _____

Clue #1: Picture Decoder

Find each answer. Then, draw a line to each match. Last, use the decoder at the bottom to solve the mystery.

Answers: $12 \div 7$, 8×6 , 11×7 , 7×3 , 9×8 , 2×3 , 5×4 , 8×6

Letters: _____

The culprit has...

Clue #2: Error Analysis

Check each suspect's work. Decide if each comparison symbol is correct. Put a check or an X next to each answer.

Darius

- $15 - 7 = 8$
- $9 - 4 = 5$
- $19 - 10 = 9$
- $16 - 8 = 7$

Destiny

- $14 - 9 = 5$
- $12 - 5 = 8$
- $20 - 8 = 12$
- $10 - 4 = 5$
- $6 - 6 = 0$

Nora

- $20 - 6 = 13$
- $16 - 7 = 9$
- $8 - 3 = 5$
- $12 - 8 = 4$

Clue #4: The School Bus

Write the answer to each question in each box.

$60 \div 5 =$	$24 \div 3 =$	$49 \div 7 =$	$55 \div 11 =$	$70 \div 7 =$	$48 \div 12 =$
J	G	B	T	R	L
$15 \div 5 =$	$66 \div 11 =$	$12 \div 6 =$	$56 \div 7 =$	$10 \div 10 =$	$35 \div 5 =$
E	U	E	N	X	D

Directions: First, write the answer on each window of the bus. Then, read what to do in the box at the bottom.

Cross out the boxes with the following answers: **5, 1, 7, 6, 12, 4**

The culprit is not wearing _____.

Clue #3: Detective Report

I have $20 - 5$ pencils in my desk. I walked over to my friend's desk, and she had $19 - 2$ pencils in her desk. She told me that she had $15 - 3$ more pencils at home. I only have $10 - 6$ pencils at home. When I asked my other friend how many pencils he had in his desk, he only had $14 - 7$. I gave him $9 - 4$ of my pencils in my desk. Then I asked my teacher how many pencils she had. She told me she had $14 - 5$ pencils in her desk and $3 - 1$ at home. Then she found $14 - 4$ more pencils in her desk! When I go to the store next, I think I'll buy $6 - 6$ pencils so I'll have even more than my teacher.

Legend:

1=A	10=E	19=Z
2=S	11=J	20=Y
3=G	12=N	21=L
4=D	13=U	22=F
5=O	14=X	23=P
	15=Q	24=I
	16=B	25=M
	17=R	26=V
	18=W	

Clue #5: Picture Reveal

Is each equation true or false? Put a T for true and an F for false.

$50 \div 5 = 10$	$2 \times 7 = 13$	$18 \div 3 = 7$	$12 \times 6 = 72$	$45 \div 9 = 4$	$7 \times 5 = 35$
$21 \div 7 = 3$	$8 \times 7 = 54$	$60 \div 12 = 6$	$9 \times 7 = 54$	$32 \div 8 = 4$	$6 \times 5 = 25$

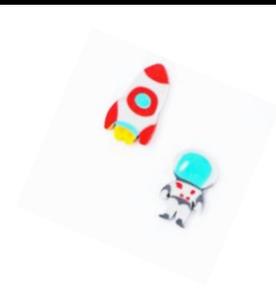
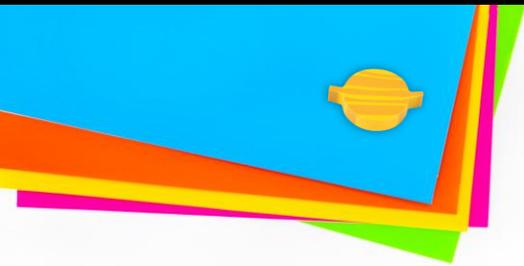
Are there more true or false equations?

There are more true equations: The culprit is not wearing blue.
 There are more false equations: The culprit is not wearing a hat.
 There are the same amount of true and false equations: The culprit is wearing a hat.
 There is no way to tell if there are more true or false equations: The culprit is a girl.

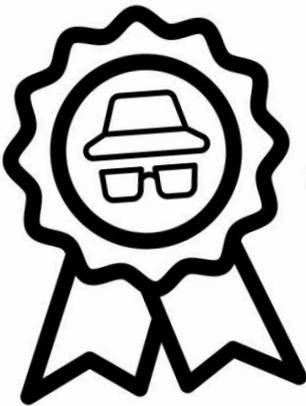
Same clues. Same mystery. Different math!

Use the add/subtract facts to 20 mystery or the multiplication/division facts 1-12 mystery!

FAST FINISHER ACTIVITY



The Detective Agency sends congratulations to:



Lindsay

You solved the mystery!

11/2 **Date** *AW* **Presented by:**

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

LET'S DRAW...
an earth

1	2	3
4	5	6

Color It!



THE LIFETIME LEARNER

LET'S DRAW...
a UFO

1	2	3
4	5	6



THE LIFETIME LEARNER

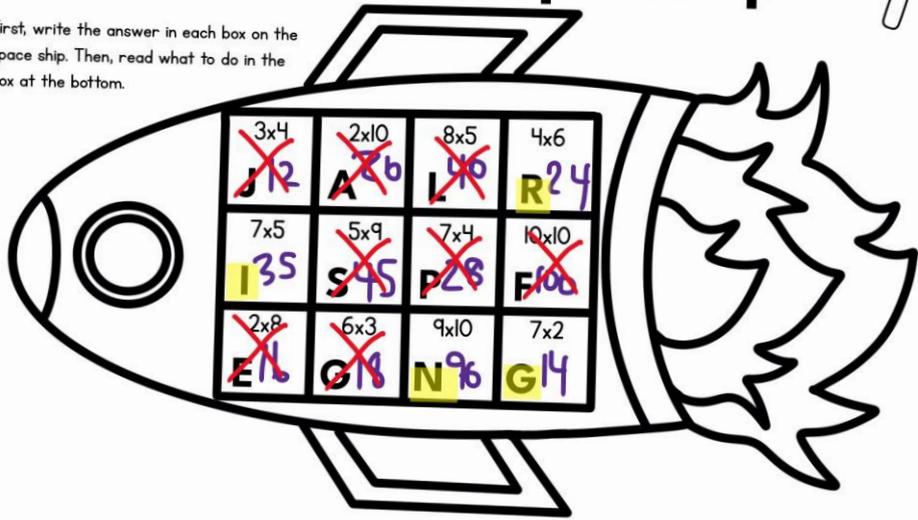
If students finish early, give them a **certificate of completion** and a **directed drawing** to complete while others continue working.

MATH MYSTERY BENEFITS

- No Prep
- Print and Digital Versions
- 3 & 5 Clue Options
- Extra Math Facts Mystery
- Fun and Engaging
- Easy to Differentiate
- Encourages Critical Thinking
- Aligns with Math Standards
- Perfect for Review Days

Clue #4: The Spaceship 

First, write the answer in each box on the space ship. Then, read what to do in the box at the bottom.



3x4 J12	2x10 A26	8x5 L40	4x6 R24
7x5 I35	5x9 S45	7x4 P28	10x10 F100
2x8 E16	6x3 G18	9x10 N96	7x2 G14

Cross out the boxes with the following answers:
16, 45, 40, 100, 28, 18, 12, 20
The letters that are left will reveal a message.

The planet does not have a
Ring

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

In 3rd grade, this works well in small groups or in partners.

WHY TEACHERS LOVE THESE!

Ordinary math worksheets can be boring and unoriginal.

You want activities that are fun and engaging, but also rigorous and meaningful to student learning.

MATH MYSTERIES ARE EXACTLY WHAT YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR!

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Clue #2: Right or Wrong?

Clue #3: Detective Report
The astronaut had spent $_ + 4 = 12$ days in space so far. She was ready to reach her next planet.

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First, write the answer in each box on the space ship. Then, read what to do in the box at the bottom.

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Write the equation below each array. Then, color the planet the same color as the star it goes with. Tally up how many of each you find in each box.

 40	 20	 12	 18	
 $6 \times 3 = 18$	 $5 \times 8 = 40$	 $3 \times 4 = 12$	 $4 \times 3 = 12$	 $5 \times 4 = 20$
 $2 \times 6 = 12$	 $4 \times 5 = 20$	 $10 \times 4 = 40$	 $2 \times 10 = 20$	 $9 \times 2 = 18$

Now, find the correct key to solve the clue!

Cross out Saturn if this is true: • 3 blue planets • 2 yellow planets • 1 green planet • 4 red planets	Cross out Neptune if this is true: • 2 blue planets • 3 yellow planets • 3 green planets • 4 red planets	Cross out Jupiter if this is true: • 3 blue planets • 4 yellow planets • 1 green planet • 2 red planets	Cross out Mars if this is true: • 2 blue planets • 3 yellow planets • 3 green planets • 2 red planets
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The Detective Agency sends congratulations to:

Lindsay
You solved the mystery!

$11/2$ *AW*
Date Presented by:

LET'S DRAW...
an earth

1 2 3
4 5 6
Color It!

LET'S DRAW...
a UFO

1 2 3
4 5 6

Where Did the Astronaut Go?

Cross out each planet as you solve each clue.

I have 0 moons. Mercury	I have 0 moons. Venus	I have 1 moon. Earth	I have 2 moons. Mars
I have 79 moons. Jupiter	I have 82 moons. Saturn	I have 27 moons. Uranus	I have 14 moons. Neptune

Name: _____

solve the mystery

The Case of the Missing Astronaut

WHAT MAKES MATH MYSTERIES UNIQUE?

Math Mysteries aren't just a copy of Reading Mysteries!

They have brand-new clues, focus on math skills, and even feature a different conclusion to the mystery.

The only thing that stays the same is the list of suspects students start with!

So, if you have both, students can play during math and then again during reading for double the fun.

Reading

Clue #1: Find It!
Circle the boxes that have an adverb at the BOTTOM.
Then, read the words at the TOP of the boxes you circled from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

not	0 cold	a quickly	place yesterday
with	more above	79 now	silent
than	50 slowly	moons rarely	2 Earth

Write the phrase on the line. Cross the wrong planets off your list.
not a place with more than 50 moons

Example of Clue 1

Math

Clue #1: Picture Decoder
Write the repeated addition sentence on each line. Then, draw a line to each match.
Last, use the decoder at the bottom to solve the clue.

2x6	7x5	4x4	8x2	4x7	6x7	3x7	8x6	5x9
s: 6x7	4x4	8x6	2x6	4x7	7x5	8x2	5x9	3x7
6+6+6+6	4+4	8+8+8	6+6	7+7	5+5+5+5	2+2+2+2	9+9+9	7+7
6+6+6	4+4	8+8+8	7+7	5+5+5	2+2+2	9+9		
: O U R P L A N E T								

The astronaut is not on...
Use this decoder to help you figure out what letter is equal to each picture.

A =	G =	M =	S =	Y =
B =	H =	N =	T =	Z =
C =	I =	O =	U =	
D =	J =	P =	V =	
E =	K =	Q =	W =	
F =	L =	R =	X =	

KEEP THE FUN GOING!

GRAB A **READING MYSTERY**:

Reading mysteries aren't just a copy of math. They come with fresh clues, unique reading challenges, and a new culprit, so students are solving an entirely different case!



MORE **MATH MYSTERIES**:

Explore other grade levels to differentiate and keep every student engaged.



BUY A BUNDLE
TO **SAVE BIG!**

