# **Step-By-Step Instructions**

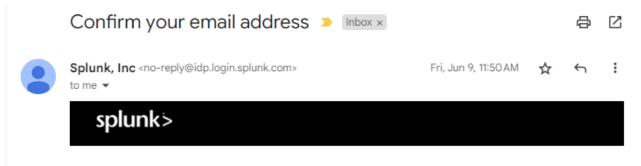
Follow the instructions and fill in the sections to complete the activity.

# **Step 1: Access supporting materials**

The following supporting materials will help you complete this activity. The data contains log and event information from Buttercup Games' mail servers and web accounts. This includes information like access and authentication logs, email logs, and more.

Navigate to supporting materials (tutorialdata.zip)

# **Step 2: Create a Splunk Cloud account**



Hi Willie, Welcome to Splunk!

Please use the button below to verify your email and complete your account setup, This link will expire in 30 minutes:

Verify Your Email

If the button above doesn't work, please copy/paste the following link into your browser: https://login.splunk.com/verify-email?email=hire.willie.conway@gmail.com&otp=554336

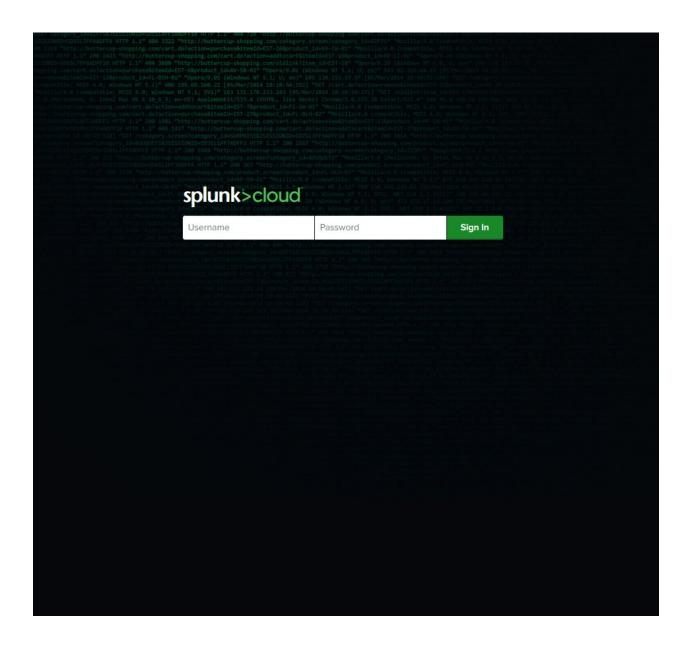
By creating an account, you agree to receive commercial email from us about Splunk events, product news, and upcoming webinars. You may unsubscribe at any time.

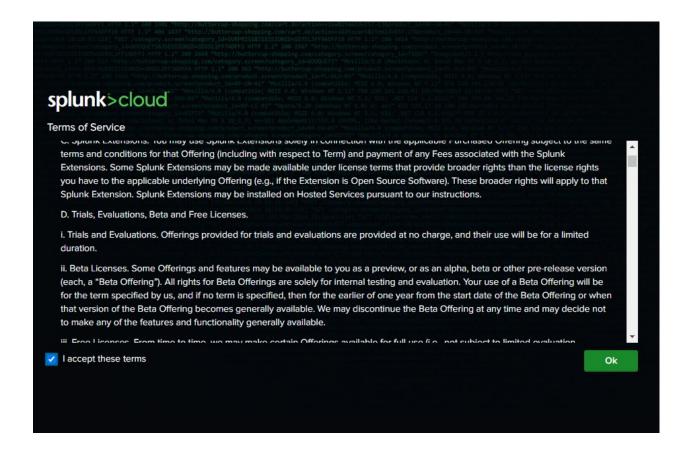
If you did not request an account, please disregard this message.



To use Splunk Cloud, you must create an account. Follow *Part 1 - Create a Splunk Cloud account* and *Part 2 - Verify your email* in the <u>Follow-along guide for Splunk sign-up</u> to create an account.

Step 3: Sign up for free Splunk Cloud trial





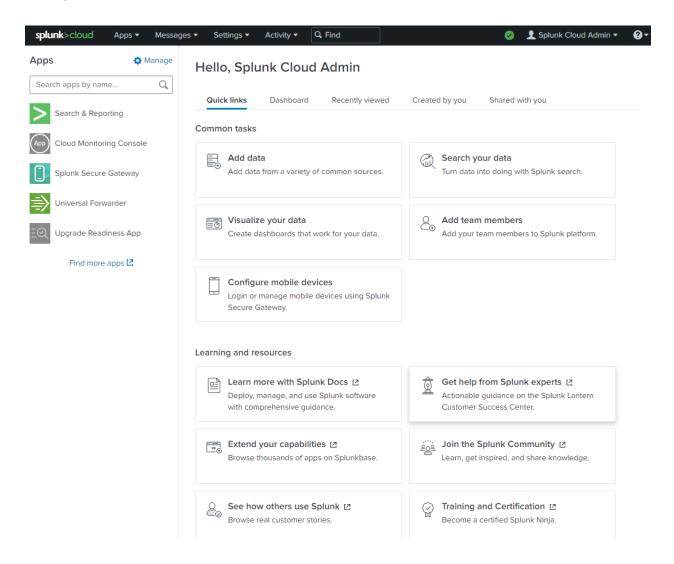
After you've created your Splunk account, you'll need to sign up for a free Splunk Cloud trial. Follow *Part 3 - Activate a Splunk Cloud trial* in the Follow-along guide for Splunk sign-up.

Note: If you experience any issues activating your Splunk Cloud trial please check out the <u>Splunk cloud tutorial video</u>.

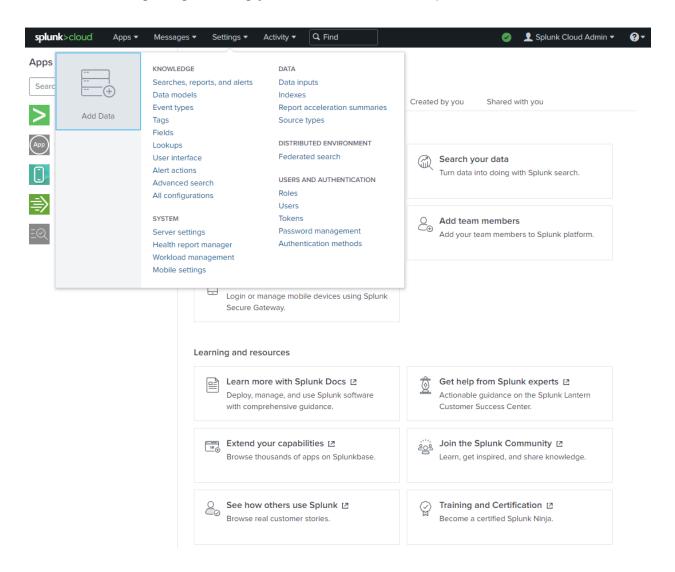
## Step 4: Upload data into Splunk

To operate effectively, it's essential that SIEM tools ingest and index data. SIEM tools collect and process data so that it becomes searchable events that can be queried, viewed, and analyzed.

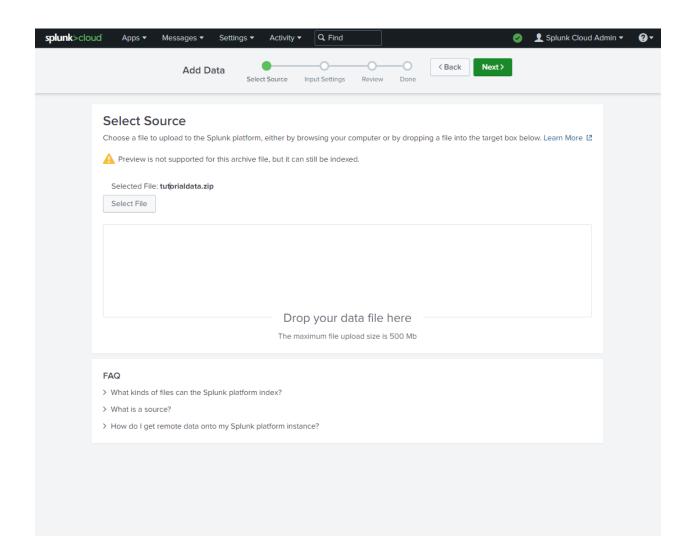
So far, you've created a Splunk account and activated and accessed the Splunk Cloud free trial, but your Splunk Cloud instance does not contain any data. Next, you'll need to upload data into Splunk to start querying. Complete the following steps to upload data into Splunk:



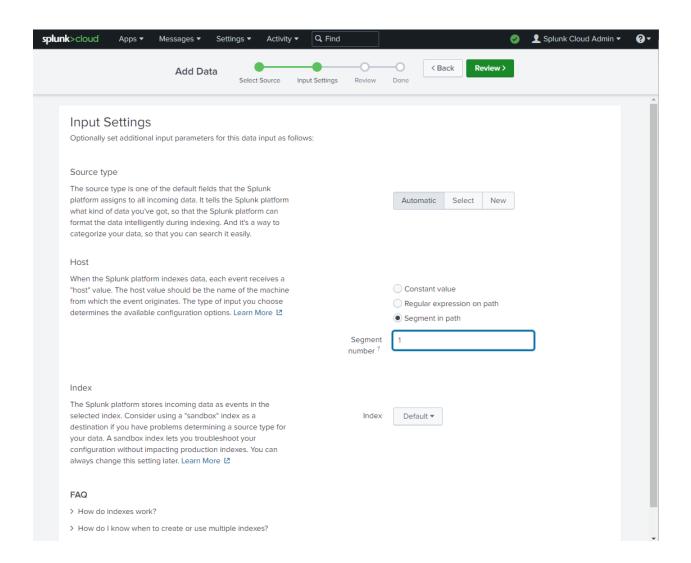
- 1. If you haven't already, download the data file from Step 1: <u>tutorialdata.zip.</u> Click the link then click the download icon. Do not uncompress the file.
- 2. Navigate to Splunk Home from your Splunk Cloud free trial instance. You might need to log in again using your credentials from Step 3.



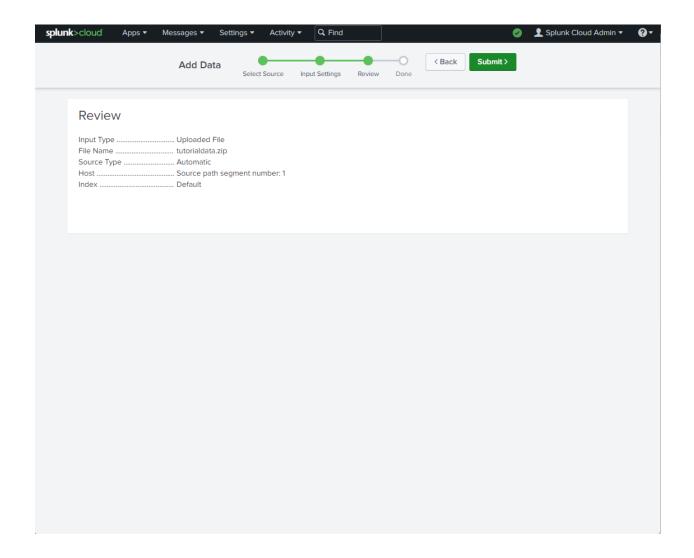
- 3. On the Splunk bar, click **Settings**. Then click the **Add Data** icon.
- Click Upload.
- 5. Click the **Select File** button.
- 6. Upload the tutorialdata.zip file, and click Open.



- 7. Click the **Next** button to continue to **Input Settings**.
- 8. By the **Host** section, select **Segment in path** and enter **1** as the segment number.



9. Click the **Review** button and review the details of the upload before you submit. The details should be as follows:



Input Type: Uploaded File

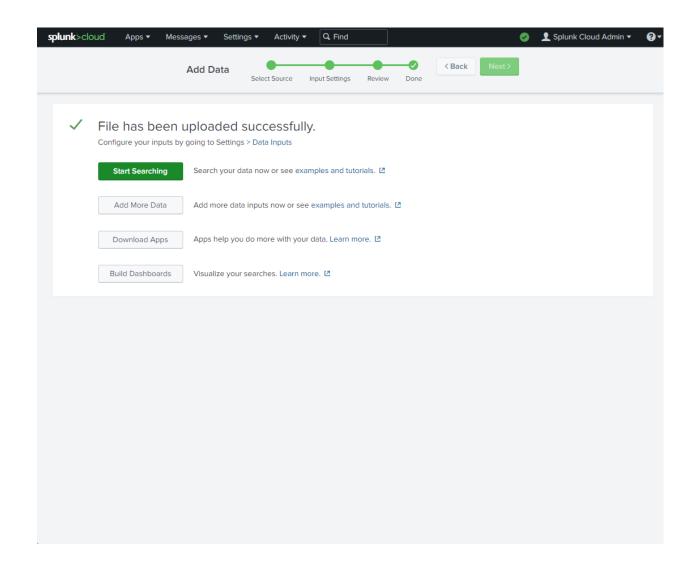
File Name: tutorialdata.zip

Source Type: Automatic

Host: Source path segment number: 1

Index: Default

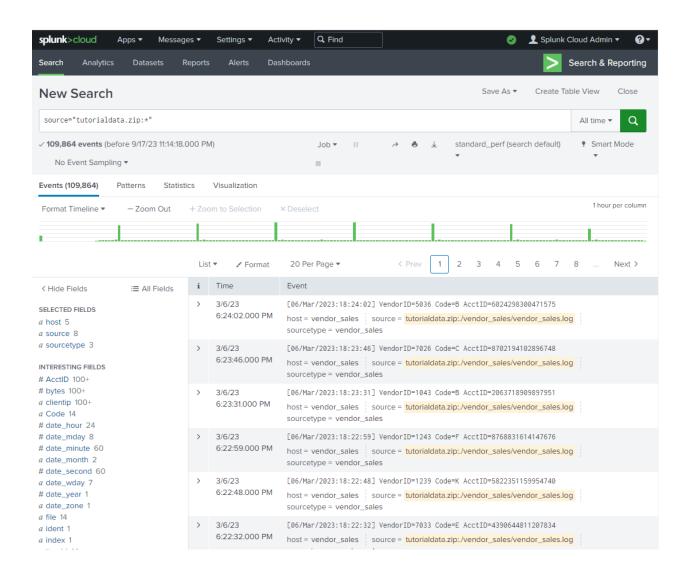
10.Click **Submit**. Once Splunk has ingested the data, you will receive confirmation that the file was successfully uploaded.

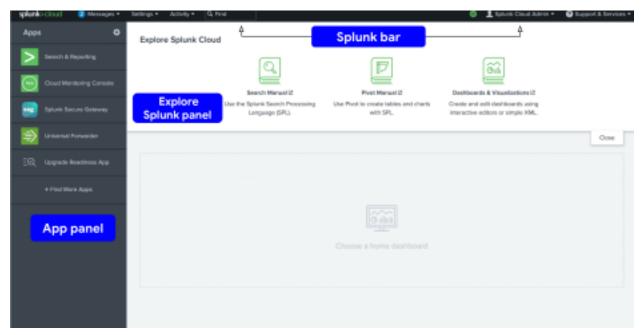


**Note:** If you are experiencing issues uploading data into Splunk, refer to the <u>Splunk</u> <u>Search Tutorial</u> guide for help.

# Step 5: Perform a basic search

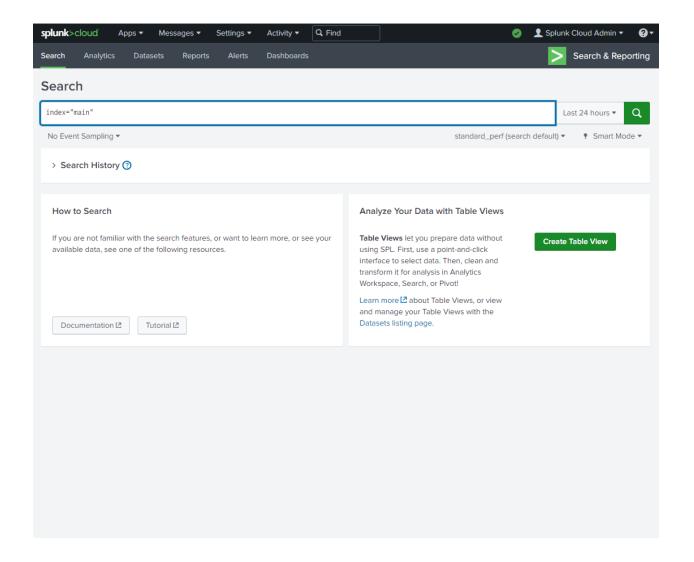
Take a moment to examine the Splunk Cloud interface by locating the app panel, the Explore Splunk panel, and the Splunk bar.



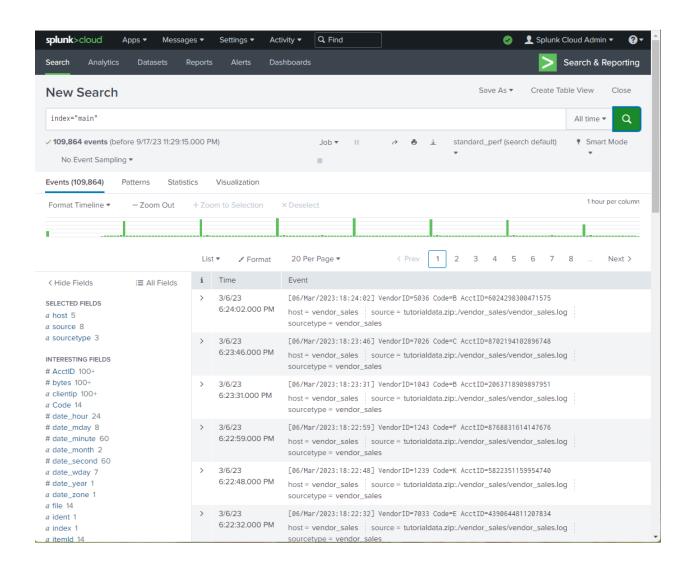


Now that you've uploaded the data into Splunk, perform your first query to confirm that the data has been ingested, indexed, and is searchable. Follow these steps to perform a query:

- 1. Navigate to Splunk Home. (To return to Splunk Home, click the Splunk Cloud logo on the Splunk Cloud page.)
- 2. Click Search & Reporting. You may close any pop ups that appear.
- 3. In the search bar, enter your search query: index=main This search term
  specifies the index. An index is a repository for data. Here, the index is a single
  dataset containing events from an index named main.



- 4. Select **All Time** from the time range dropdown to search for all the events across all time.
- 5. Click the search button. Note that the search button is represented by the magnifying glass icon. Your search should retrieve thousands of events.



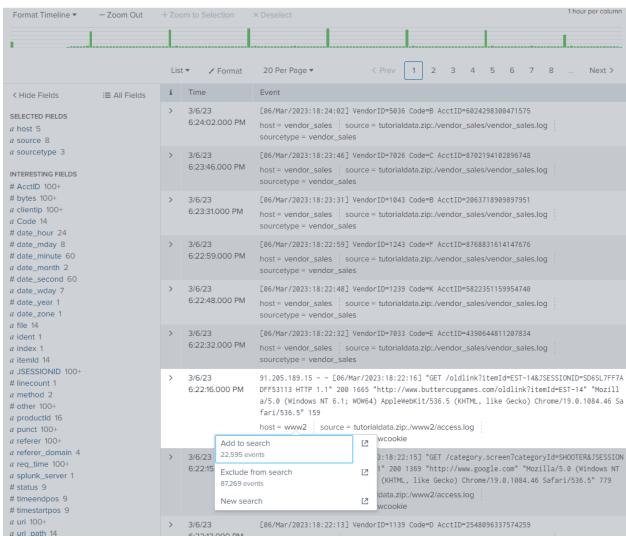
**Pro tip**: It's a best practice to use short time ranges in your searches because a shorter time range returns results faster and uses fewer resources. Adjust the time using the time range dropdown or by using <u>time modifiers</u> in your search.

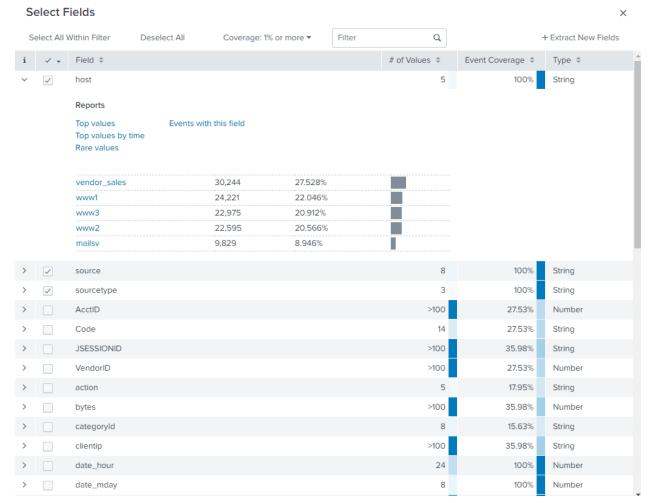
## Step 6: Evaluate the fields

When Splunk indexes data, it attaches fields to each event. These fields become part of the searchable index event data. This helps security analysts easily search for and find the specific data they need. Now that you've run your first query, examine the search results and the fields.

For each event the fields are host, source, and sourcetype. Under SELECTED

## FIELDS, examine the same fields.





Examine the field values by clicking on the field under **SELECTED FIELDS**. You should observe the following:

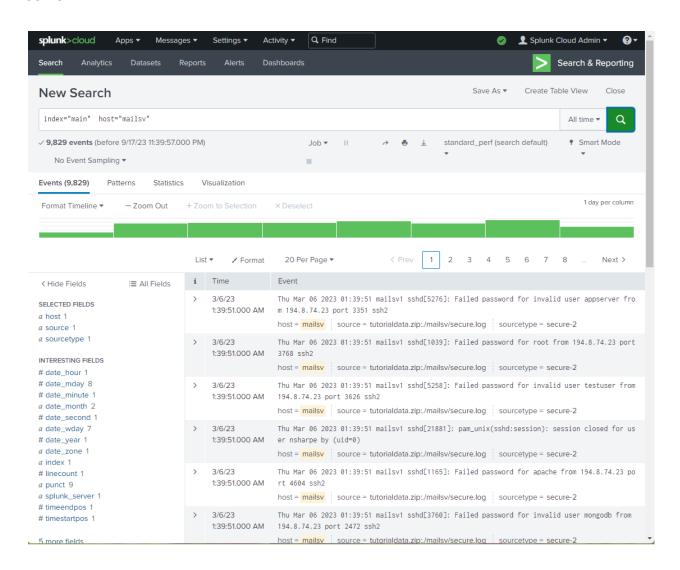
- host: The host field specifies the name of the network host from which the event originated. In this search there are five hosts:
  - mailsv Buttercup Games' mail server. Examine events generated from this host.
  - o www1 This is one of Buttercup Games' web applications.
  - o www2 This is one of Buttercup Games' web applications.
  - o www3 This is one of Buttercup Games' web applications.
  - o vendor\_sales Information about Buttercup Games' retail sales.
- **source**: The source field indicates the file name from which the event originates. You should identify eight sources. Notice /mailsv/secure.log, which is a log

file that contains information related to authentication and authorization attempts on the mail server.

• **sourcetype**: The sourcetype determines how data is formatted. You should observe three sourcetypes. Examine **secure-2**.

### Step 7: Narrow your search

Because you've been tasked with exploring any failed SSH logins for the root account on the mail server, you'll need to narrow the search results for events from the mail server.

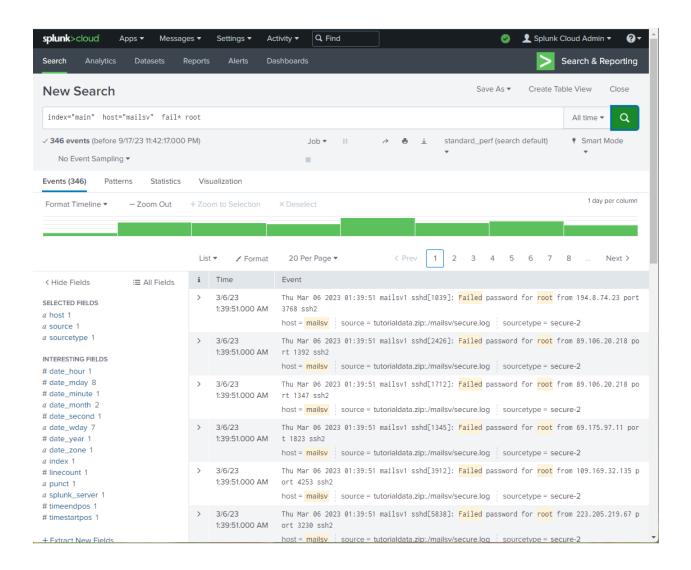


Under SELECTED FIELDS, click host and click mailsv.

Notice that a new term has been added to the search bar: index=main host=mailsv. The search results have narrowed to over 9000 events that are generated by the mail server.

## Step 8: Search for a failed login for root

Now that you've narrowed your search results to events generated by the mail server, continue to narrow the search to locate any failed SSH logins for the root account.



- 1. Clear the search bar.
- 2. Enter index=main host=mailsv fail\* root into the search bar. This search

expands on the search from the previous task and searches for the keyword fail\*. The wildcard tells Splunk to expand the search term to find other terms that contain the word *fail* such as *failure*, *failed*, etc. Lastly, the keyword root searches for any event that contains the term root.

3. Click search.

## **Step 9: Evaluate the Search results**

Your search from the previous task should have retrieved search results for over 300 events. Navigate to other pages of the search results to observe the events not listed on the first page of results.

**Pro tip:** Splunk highlights search terms in search results to make it easier to identify where the search terms appear in the data.

## **Step 10: Answer questions about the search results**

- 1. How many events are contained in the main index across all time?
  - a. 10-99
  - b. 10,000
  - c. Over 100,000
  - d. 100 -1,000
- 2. Which field identifies the name of a network device or system from which an event originates?
  - a. index
  - b. host
  - C. source
  - d. sourcetype
- 3. Which of the following hosts used by Buttercup Games contains log information relevant to final transactions?
  - a. www2

- b. www1
- C. www3
- d. vendor sales
- 4. How many failed SSH logins are there for root account on the mail server?
  - a. More than 100
  - b. None
  - c. One
  - d. 100

# **Key takeaways**

In this activity, you used Splunk Cloud to perform a search and investigation. Using Splunk Cloud, you were able to:

- Upload sample log data
- Search through indexed data
- Evaluate search results
- Identify different data sources
- Locate failed SSH login(s) for the root account

If you would like to challenge yourself and explore more simulated incident investigations using Splunk, log in to Splunk and visit <u>Splunk Boss of the SOC.</u>