

# SCHOOL-SCOUT.DE



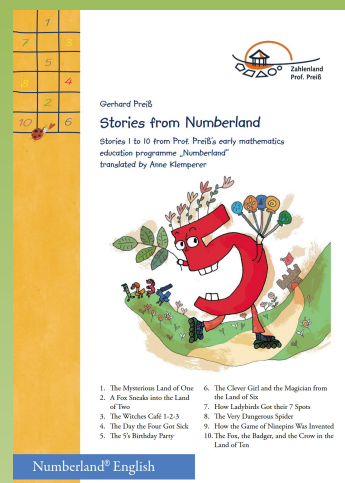
Unterrichtsmaterialien in digitaler und in gedruckter Form

## Auszug aus:

*Stories from Numberland - Mathematik bilingual*

Das komplette Material finden Sie hier:

[School-Scout.de](http://School-Scout.de)



# 1. The Mysterious Land of One

Last night some strange things happened to me in the middle of the night. I was lying in bed fast asleep. I heard the alarm clock ring, just once - rrrrrr-riiiiing! - and then everything was quiet again.

I turned on the light and looked with one eye to see what time it was. It was one o'clock in the morning. It was still dark outside. Looking out my window I could see the moon and one shining star.



I hopped on one leg to the bathroom. I had only one tooth. I brushed it with my toothbrush. I looked in the mirror and saw that there was a shiny blue dot on my forehead, and I had only one hair on my head!

Then I knew that I was in the Land of One, where there is only one of everything.

There was only one fish swimming around in my aquarium. And there was only one book on my bookshelf: A book about the number one. I went into the kitchen and drank one glass of milk in one gulp and ate one piece of bread in one bite.

Then I went to get the newspaper. My dog was lying on the doorstep playing with one ball. The newspaper was only one page. On the front was the number one and on the back was the song "Hickory, Dickory, Dock."

I wondered if I could drive to town with a car that had only one wheel. And what if there was only one house in the whole town?



I went back to bed.



When I woke up at eight o'clock that morning, the world was just as it had always been.

I got up and walked into the bathroom, using both legs. Hooray! The blue spot on my forehead was gone.

I washed my ten fingers and brushed all my teeth with my toothbrush. I happily combed all my hair. I got dressed and drove to town in my car with four wheels.

Did I only dream that I was in the mysterious Land of One?

## 2. A Fox Sneaks into the Land of Two

There once was a fox that spent the whole night chasing mice. The next day he walked past the gates of the Land of Two.

He spotted a stork in the Land of Two, and he licked his lips and said softly to himself: “That bird would be very tasty. Oh, how nice and big it is! Now I must be very clever...”

He crawled into a bush. With his sharp teeth he bit off a branch with a lot of red leaves. He held the branch with one of his hind legs so that it looked like a second tail.

Then the fox went back to the entrance. He approached the guards and said in a friendly voice:

*“I have two nice red ears,  
I’ve been in the Land of Two for years.”*

The guards made sure that only pairs of things went into the Land of Two.

They examined the fox’s short ears and long nose. Then they shook their heads and answered solemnly:

*“Your ears are too small.  
You don’t belong here at all.”*

But the fox had expected this answer. That is why he had brought along the branch as a second tail.

He turned around and showed the guards his back.

*“I am a very mysterious creature.  
My two red tails are my best feature.”*

The guards were very astonished. They had never seen an animal with two tails.

It was getting dark, so they didn’t realize that the second tail was a branch. They let the fox into the Land of Two, saying:

*“One and two,  
go on through.”*

The fox liked it in the Land of Two. “I smell yummy birds in here!”



## 4. The Day the Four Got Sick

Everybody gets sick sometime. You know what it's like. You lie in bed and feel hot. Your head is buzzing and your stomach hurts. Sometimes you have to go to the doctor and take bitter medicine.

Sometimes - but luckily not often! - a number gets sick. This story tells what happened when the four was sick and didn't want to get out of bed.



"I feel horrible. I feel horrible." complained the 4. She pulled the covers over her head. Then everything was quiet. But from time to time you could still hear her whimpering, softly: "I feel horrible. I feel horrible."



There was great confusion in the Land of Four. Everyone called out, "The 4 is sick! The 4 is sick!" and added, "I hope she gets better soon."

Even television stations reported that the 4 was sick. They broadcast pictures of her lying in bed. There wasn't much to see - just her bed, and 4 hairs sticking out from under the covers.

Something was wrong at the school.

The children couldn't sit down, because all four legs of their chairs were bent. And the teacher's desk rocked back and forth.

All the children suddenly forgot the number 4 and couldn't do math properly.

The preschool children were making mistakes, too. Children who knew how to count really well were saying, "1, 2, 3, 5."

Animals noticed that the 4 was sick, too. Cats and dogs were walking around on 3 paws, because the fourth ones hurt. One poor cat cried:



*"Meow, meow, meow.  
My paw hurts now.  
And my awful hair  
gives them all a scare."*

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