

# how Many Legs?



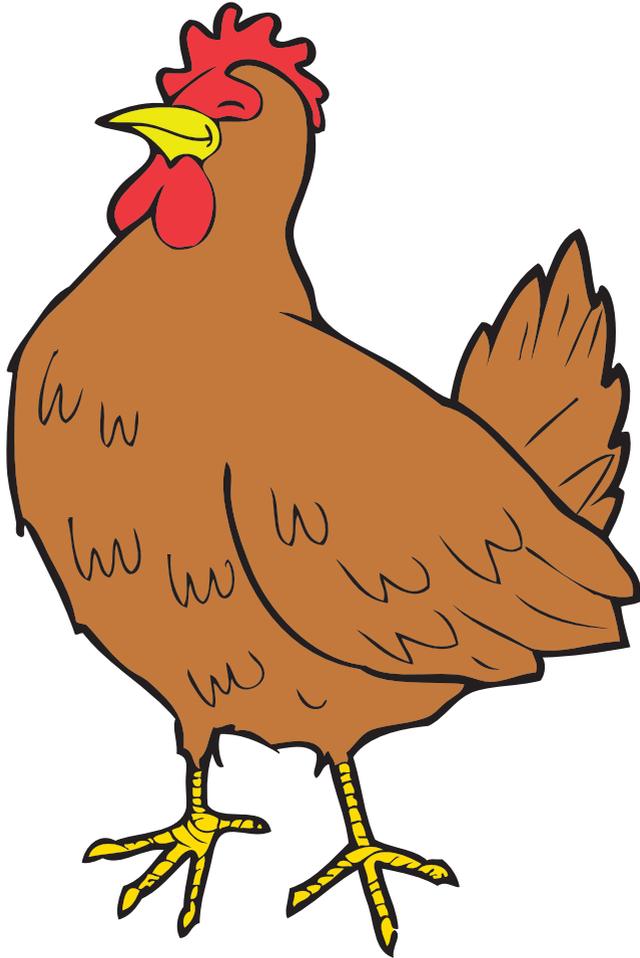
READING IS THE KEY TO LEARNING

How many legs has our dog got?  
Let's count them. One, two, three, four.



He's got one at each corner so  
he doesn't fall down.

How many legs has our chicken got?  
Let's count them. One, two.



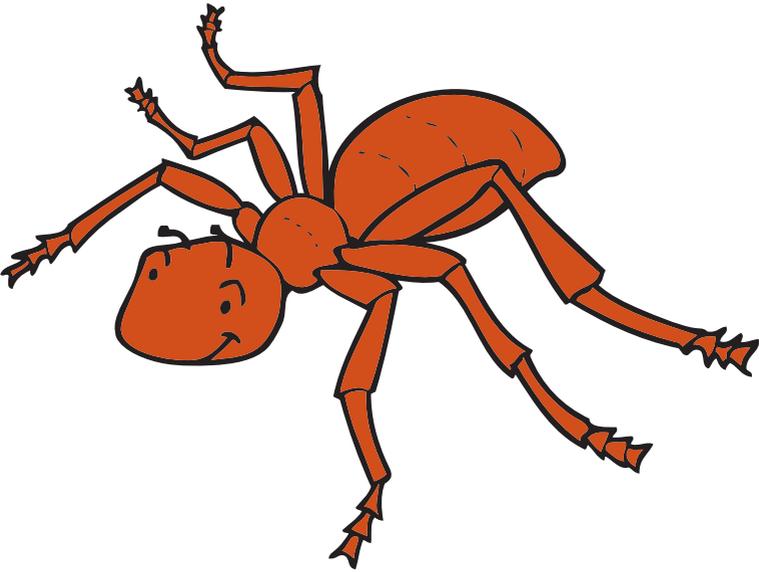
She's got two beneath her so  
she can perch on the wall.

How many legs has Grandpa's stool got?  
Let's count them. One, two, three.



They need to be strong to hold his bottom up.

How many legs has an ant got?  
Let's count them. One, two, three, four, five, six.

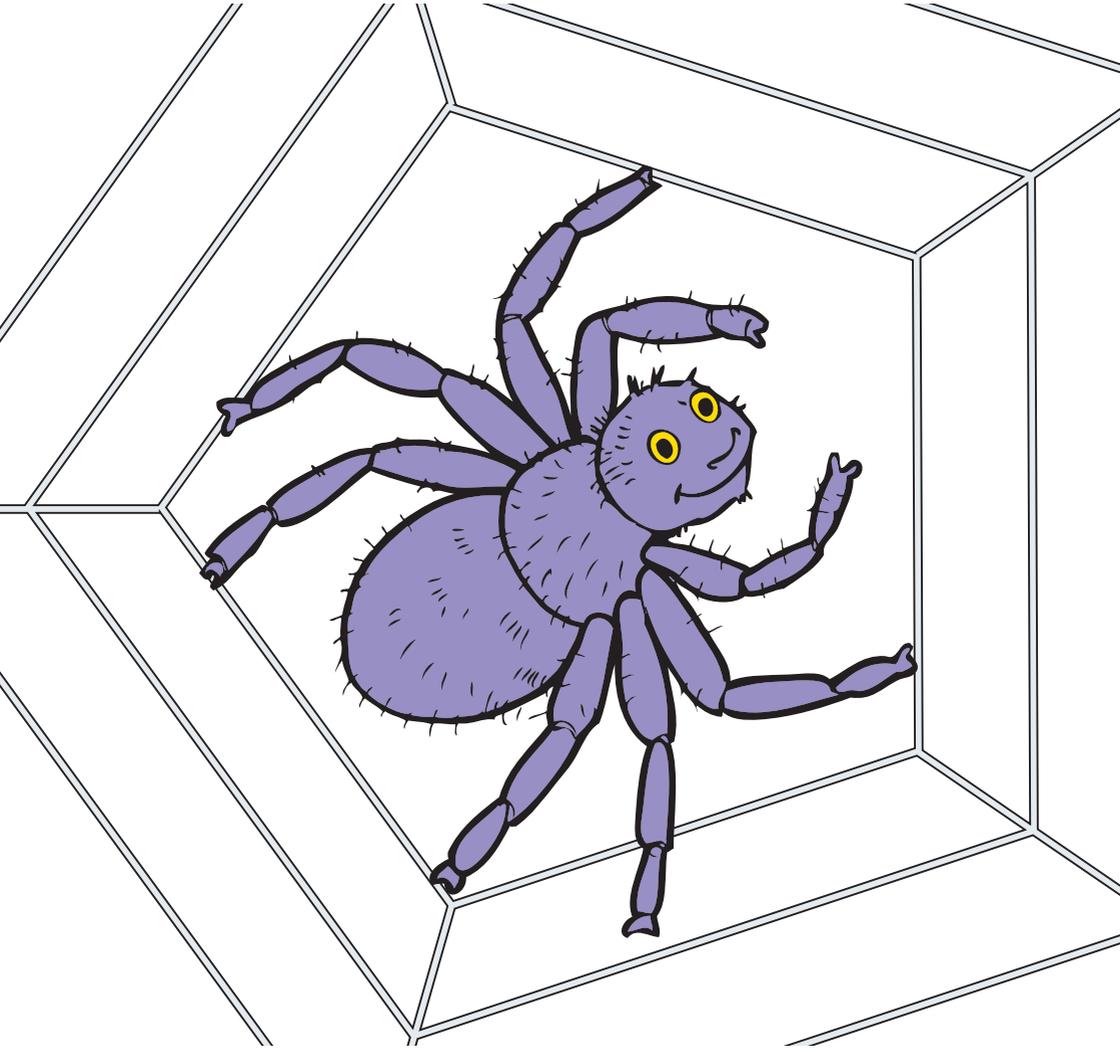


She has six legs so she can march  
up and down.

How many legs has a spider got?

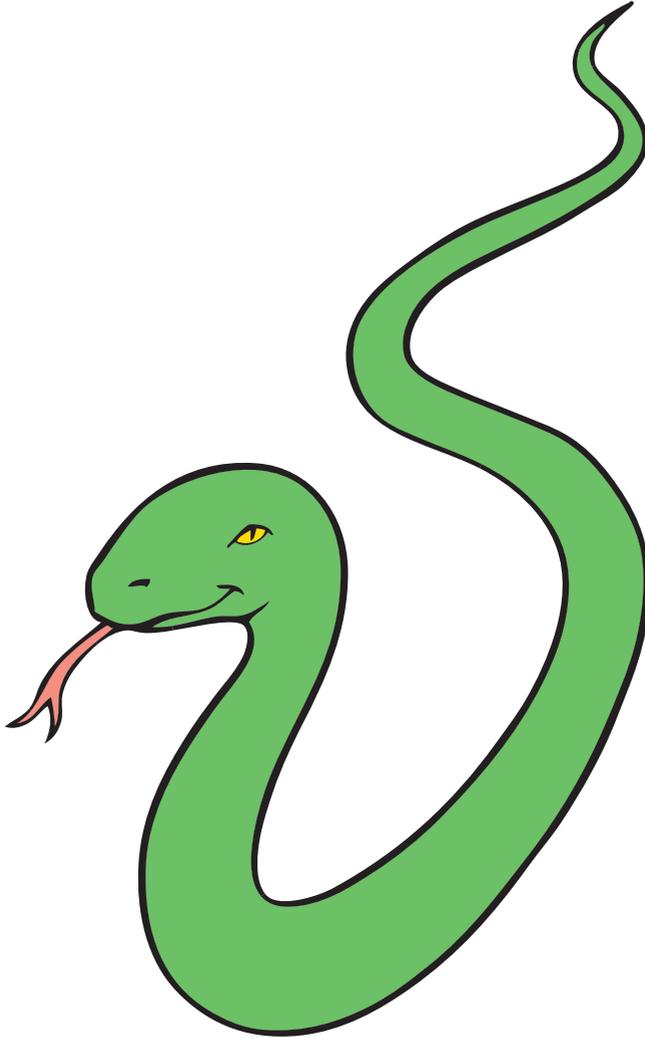
Let's count them.

One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight.



She needs eight legs to climb about in her web.

How many legs has a snake got?  
Let's try to count them...  
He hasn't got any legs!



He's got no legs so he can squeeze into holes.

How many legs has Kofi got now ?  
Count them... Only one.



He is pretending to be a big bird fishing.

And here's Dani.  
How many legs has he got?  
Let's count them. One, two.



He got one at each side so  
he can stand up straight.

# Questions to ask and things to do together

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## 1. Numbers in the story

(for two to three year olds)

**Put the numbers told in the story in order from 0 to 8. Which numbers are missing?**

## 2. Finding more legs (for two to three year olds)

**Find more things with the same number of legs**

...with one, two or three legs.

...with four, six or eight legs.

...with no legs.

**Can you find anything**

...with five legs?

...or seven legs?

...or ten legs?

## 3. Play adding up games

(for three to four year olds)

**How many legs has:**

**Grandpa sitting on his stool? (3 + 2)**

**Kofi watching a big bird fishing? (2 + 1)**

*Make up many more*

#### **4. Play taking away games**

(for three to four year olds)

**How many legs are left after**

**Maya is sitting at a table (2 + 4)**

**and then walks out? (6 - 2)**

**Kofi has an ant crawling up his leg (2 + 6)**

**and shakes it off? (8 - 6)**

*Make up many more*

#### **5. Two things... one number**

(for three to four year olds)

**See how many ways you can make them up.**

**For example**

**Our chicken stands on grandpa's stool (5)**

**The fishing bird catches an ant (7)**

**Maya stands on one leg to reach a spider (9)**

*Make up many more*

### **Ideas for making things from Maya**

**1. Make a Legs Picture Book** (with four year olds).

**Show it to the smaller children**

**2. Make up a story about the three-legged stool.**

**Let grandpa tell the story.**

**Let the stool tell the story.**

*Make up some more*



First stage

These books were originally developed by a group from the Child-to-Child Trust and UNICEF for beginner readers in primary school to read and show their younger siblings to help prepare them for school.

Read and show them to one to four year olds, play the games. They will help them understand ideas and new words, pretend and have fun.

One of Children for Health's 10 messages on Caring for Babies is 'Help prepare young children for learning at school by playing number and word games with them, painting and drawing. Tell them stories, sing songs and dance.'



# a hanging library book

Story by Stewart Tiley and illustrations by David Gifford 2007.