

One Elephant Will Not Budge



The Elephant sits in the small red cart and will NOT get out. "Push harder!" it trumpets, blowing hearts from its trunk. That is a big ask. Child leans in with both hands and pushes. One huge elephant, and it will not budge one bit. What a fine start to an **adventure**.





Child takes a break. A red hen scratches in the yard. Then Child spots two fresh eggs, right there in the snow! Child holds up two digits and grins. "One elephant, two eggs... I can count!" Child **ventures** on. What is next? Three!

In the room, the big fan spins its three blades fast. Child grips the bubble wand. One deep breath and SWISH! Bubbles fly all over, spinning and swirling in the air. Papers flutter from the table. "Three blades and lots of bubbles!" Child yells. What a **mixture**! What is next? Four!



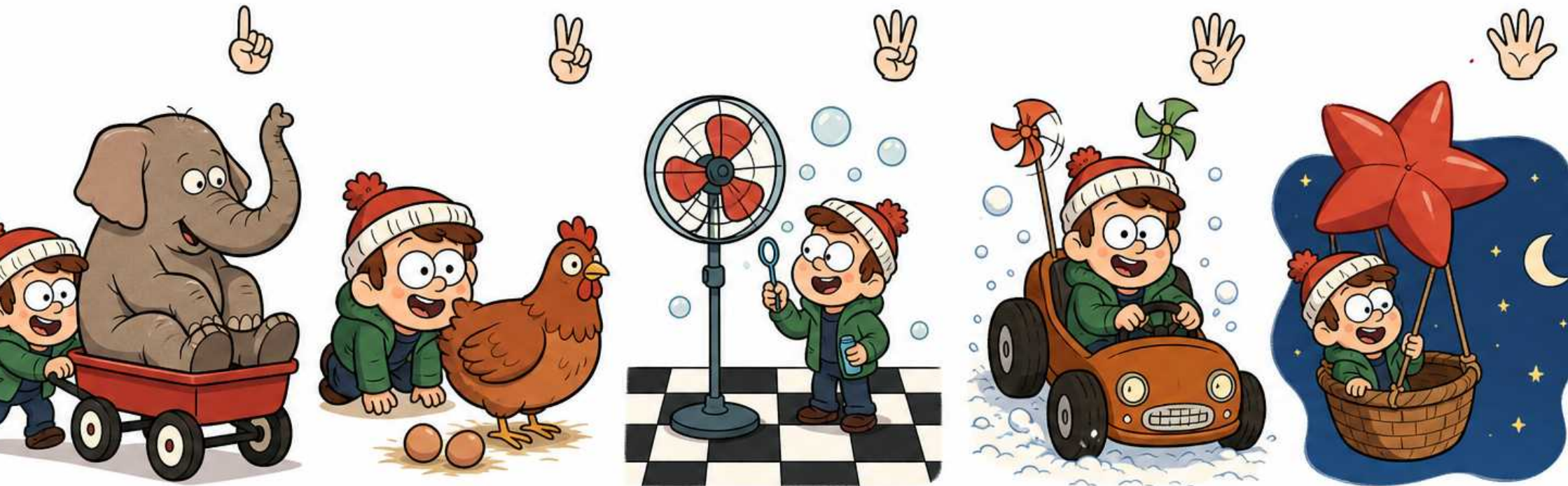


Child zips into the small
car. Four wheels, a face
on the nose, and
pinwheels spinning on top.
The car zooms in the
snow. "Zoom, car, zoom!"
Child yells. Four wheels
and zero plans to stop.
The snow is cold, but
Child grins and **ventures**
on. Five is close now.

A big red star floats over a basket. Five points! Child climbs in. The basket lifts from the ground, and up Child goes. Past the rooftops. Past the birds. Up into the dark sky, near the glowing moon. "Five," Child says, reaching out one hand. What a great **adventure!** All the world looks very small from up high.



One Elephant, still sitting in its cart. Two eggs.
Three spinning blades. Four fast wheels. Five
bright points on a star. That is five of ten! Five
is great. But there are still five more to find.
One to five, each one part of the **adventure**.
The next five? They are about to get WILD.



A huge ant! Six legs
stomp on the rocky
ground. Child climbs
right up and holds on
tight. The **creature**
marches on, big and
bold, and Child's mouth
gapes wide open. "Six
legs! This is the best
ride!" The ant says zero.





"It is my birthday!" Child yells. "Day seven! The BEST day of all!" A pal is right there in a red party hat. They both look up at the big date chart on the wall. Today is marked in red. "My birthday is eight days after today," the pal groans, **gesturing** at the chart. "Eight days! I can't wait eight days!"

The web is all string, and each string is as big as a rope. The biggest spider of all sits right at the top, with eight huge legs. Child's arms fly wide open. "What an epic **creature!**" The spider wiggles one leg. Then one more. Then all eight at the same time. Is it... dancing?



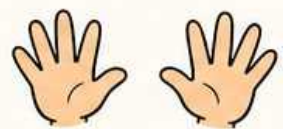
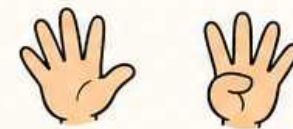
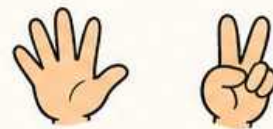
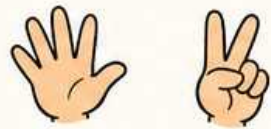


The bird stands on the cracked brick wall, proud as a king on a throne. "Look at the feathers!" Child calls. Red, gold, green, blue, copper, cream, black, white, and a shimmer on top of all that. Nine hues! And the best **feature** of all is the sparkle. Each hue gleams in the light.

Child holds up one hand.
Five digits, wide open. Then
hand number two. Five
more! "Six, seven, eight,
nine... TEN!" Both hands go
up high, all ten digits
spread wide. Child grins a
big grin. What a **picture!**
The biggest number of all
is right there, at the end
of Child's two arms.



Six legs. Seven on the chart. Eight legs more. Nine bright hues.
Ten digits up high. Every number, one to ten. What an
adventure! But hold on. Back at the start, one very big Elephant
is still sitting in one very small cart. Child cracks both knuckles.
"Right then. Back to one. And this time? PUSH HARDER!"





120

One Elephant Will Not Budge

One enormous elephant sits in its little cart and simply will not move, no matter how hard a child pushes. A break brings two warm eggs, a spinning fan, and a car that zooms through the snow, each stop adding another number to count. Will the elephant ever budge? Created to align with the UFLI Foundations scope and sequence (Lesson 120: -ture), this book practices words like 'adventure', 'creature', 'picture', 'mixture', 'feature'.

Phonics Focus: -ture

adventure, creature, feature, gesturing, mixture, picture, ventures

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