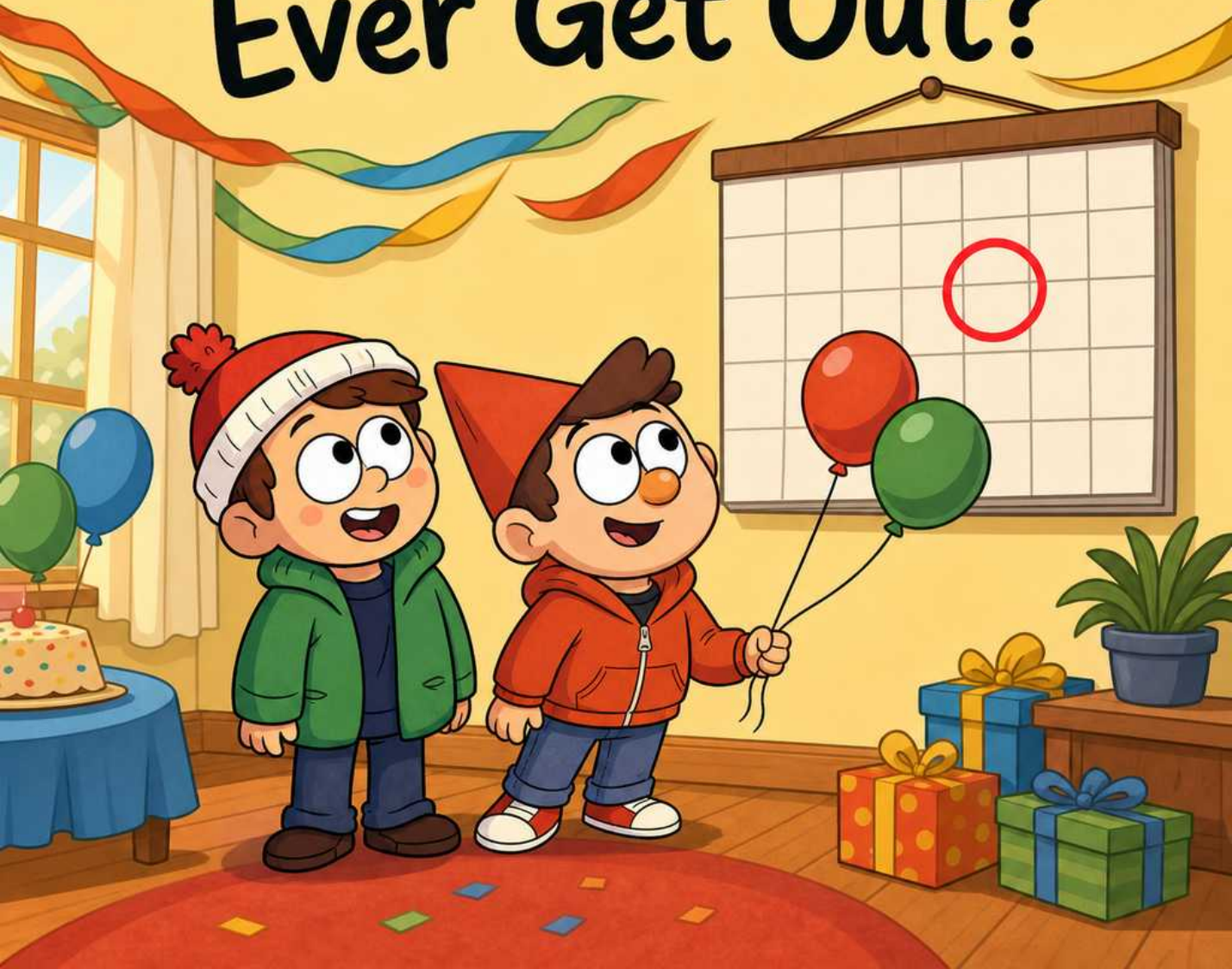


Will Elephant Ever Get Out?



The Elephant sits in the little red cart and will not get out. 'Push **harder!**'

Elephant says, and blows soft shapes up high. Easy for an Elephant to say.

Sam leans in with both hands and pushes hard.

One big Elephant, and it will not shift one bit. This will be a very long day.





Sam needs a rest. In the yard, a red hen pecks in the **dirt**. 'Look here!' calls a **farmer**. 'Two eggs, right by the hen!' Two eggs in the **dirt**. Sam holds up two **fingers** and grins. 'One Elephant, two eggs. Hey! I can count!'

Inside, a tall fan spins its three blades like it wants to fly.

Sam grabs the wand. One big puff and whoosh! Soap orbs spin and **swirl** and sail across the room.

'Three blades and lots of soap orbs!' Sam yells. What would four look like?





Sam hops into the little car. Four wheels, a face on the front, and pinwheels that **twirl** on top. 'This is no horse!' Sam yells as the car zooms in the snow. 'A car has no legs, just fast wheels!' Four fast wheels and no wish to slow down. Five must be close now.

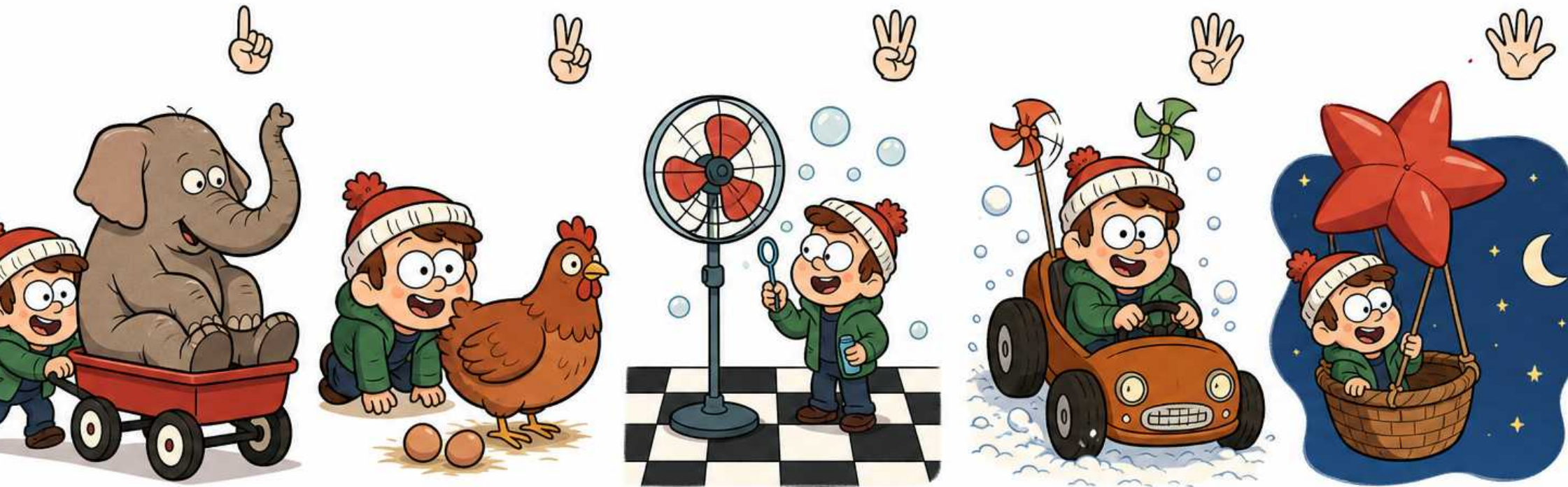
A red star balloon. Five fine points.

The basket lifts off the ground, and up Sam goes. Past the roofs. Past the **birds**. All the way up to the moon, big and bright.

'Five,' Sam **whispers**, and reaches out one hand. All the land looks so small up here.



First, one Elephant, still stuck in its cart.
Two eggs. Three fan blades. Four fast
wheels. Five points on a star. Five is good.
But five and five more make ten. And the
next five? Oh, the next five will be a blast!



A huge ant! Six legs,
thick as branches, stomp
on the rocky ground.
Sam hops up and grips
it tight. The ant marches
on like it owns all the
land, and Sam's mouth
gapes wide. 'Six legs! This
is the best ride **ever!**'

The ant says not a word.
Ants do not speak much.





'It is my **birthday!**' Sam calls. 'The seventh! The best day of all!' Sam's pal is there, a red balloon in one hand, a green balloon in the **other**. Both **peer** up at the big date chart on the wall. Today is ringed in red. 'My **birthday** is eight days **after** this,' the pal groans. 'Eight days. That is **forever!**'

The web is made of
string as thick as rope.
Right at the top sits the
biggest **spider** Sam has
ever seen. Eight big legs!
Sam's arms fly wide.
'Wow! What a grand
spider!' The **spider stirs**
one leg. Then more. Then
all eight at once. Is it...
doing a jig?



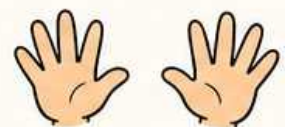
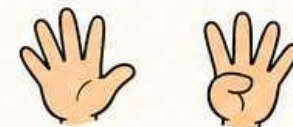
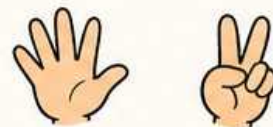
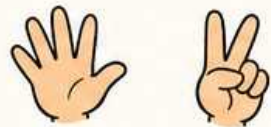


A big **bird** stands on the old brick wall like a king on a throne. 'Look at that **bird!**' Sam gasps. Red, gold, green, blue, **copper**, and more. Nine tints, and a shine with no name yet. Nine tints. You would need nine pencils to start, and still miss the shine.

Sam holds up one hand.
Five **fingers**, wide. Then
the **other** hand, and five
more. 'Six, seven, eight,
nine, ten!' Sam counts
each finger in **turn**. Both
hands high, all ten
fingers wide. The biggest
number of all, right at
the end of Sam's own
two arms all this time.



Six ant legs. Seven on the date chart. Eight **spider** legs. Nine bright tints. Ten **fingers**. Every **number**, one to ten. What a ride. What a count. What a day! But hold on. Back at the very start, one big Elephant still sits in one little red cart. Sam grins. 'Right then. Back to one. And this time, push **harder!**'





Will Elephant Ever Get Out?

The elephant won't budge from its little red cart, no matter how hard it's pushed. But out in the yard, warm eggs in the dirt spark a fun new game: counting! Soon bubbles swirl from a spinning fan, a toy car zooms on twirling wheels, and a star balloon lifts higher and higher into the sky. How high will the count go before it's time to turn back and push that elephant again? Written for Jolly Phonics classrooms (Step 3, Unit 11: /er/ mixed), this book practices words like 'dirt', 'swirl', 'twirl', 'fingers', 'turn'.

Phonics Focus: <mixed>

after, bird, birds, birthday, copper, dirt, ever, farmer, fingers, first, forever, harder, number, other, peer, spider, stirs, swirl, turn, twirl, whispers

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