

Number Riddles

You can feel free to find or create new riddles that go with the images you like for each number. I've listed some places where these numbers are found in the world after each riddle I chose. If you have other suggestions, please share! Renee Schwartz waldorf.curric@gmail.com

The riddle for ONE:

As straight as a spear I stand,
To reach for the sky with both my hands.
My shape reveals how many "I am".

~ *The Upright Human Being*
from Eric Fairman, p.21

What is ONE:
the sun, the earth, the child

The riddle for TWO:

For me and you, we each have two
It's not our feet or hands to eat.
Our legs are strong, but that too is wrong.
Our arms are bold, but this we can not hold.
With these you see with so much glee...
What am I?

~ *The Eyes*
from [Ancient Hearth blog post](#)

<http://ancienthearth2.blogspot.com/2010/01/maths-block-i-quality-of-numbers-i-iiii.html>

What is TWO:
arms, hands, legs, feet, eyes, ears, lungs, kidneys, hemispheres, twins, bicycle,
opposites (day/night, dark/light, good/bad, up/down, in/out, happy/sad, quiet/loud)

The riddle for THREE:

I am a number with a couple of friends;
Quarter a dozen, and you'll find me again.
What am I?

~ *Three*
from [The Big Book of Silly Jokes for Kids](#), p.105

What is THREE:
father/mother/child, head/heart/hands, thinking/feeling/willing, nervous/rhythmic/
metabolic, triplets, trio, triple, tricycle, triangle, the three bears, the three little pigs,
the three billy goats gruff, the three nights that Rumpelstiltskin comes to the queen

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The riddle for FOUR:

From the North, from the West
From the South, from the East
When we push a door and find it shut
We slip in underneath
We whistle and blow
Our number you know
But who are we?

~ *The Four Winds*

a combination of two riddles

from Eric Fairman, p.21

from Riddles, a Steiner Schools Fellowship Publication

What is FOUR:

four seasons, four elements (earth, water, fire, air), four kingdoms (mineral, plant, animal, human), square, four points on the compass, four winds

The riddle for FIVE:

Four together and one apart,
Hold them still and behold -
What is the number that
I do hold?

~ *Four Fingers and a Thumb / The Roman Numeral for V*

from Eric Fairman, p.21

What is FIVE:

fingers, toes, five pointed star, pentagon, the rooms in an apple, apple blossoms, roses, okra blossoms, chambers in okra pods, five lined skink

The riddles for SIX:

I am a seed with three letters in my name.
Take away two letters and I sound quite the same.
What am I?

~ *A Pea*

from The Big Book of Silly Jokes for Kids, p.108

A one-seeded fruit I may be,
But all of your calendars are full of me.
What am I?

~ *Dates*

from The Big Book of Silly Jokes for Kids, p.108

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What has green hair,
a round red head, and
a long, thin white beard?

~ *A Radish*
from The Big Book of Silly Jokes for Kids, p.99

What is SIX:
insect legs, hexagon, beehive, six pointed star, snowflake, six edible parts of the
plant (seed, root, stem, leaf, flower, fruit)

The riddle for SEVEN:

I am beautiful, up in the sky.
I am magical, yet I cannot fly.
To some people, I bring luck;
To some people, riches.
The person at my end does whatever he wishes.
What am I?

~ *A Rainbow*
from The Big Book of Silly Jokes for Kids, p.109

What is SEVEN:
rainbow, days of the week, the seven dwarves, stars in the Big Dipper, seven seas

The riddle for EIGHT:

In all the world
nothing compares
to this weaver's cloth:
tiny,
deadly,
silky,
and fair.

~ *A Spider*
adapted from riddlewot.com

What is EIGHT:
octopus, spider, eight planets, octagon, stop sign

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The riddle for NINE:

If two's company
and three's a crowd,
what are four and five?

~ *Nine*

from [The Big Book of Silly Jokes for Kids](#), p.106

What is NINE:

nine headed hydra, nine banded armadillo, nine lives of a cat, draw 9 apples in a tree, draw 9 gems twinkling underground, draw 9 jellyfish tentacles

The riddle for TEN:

Twenty white horses
Upon a red hill.
Now they stamp,
Now they champ,
Now they stand still.

~ *Teeth*

adapted from [Riddles](#), a Steiner Schools Fellowship Publication
children have ten deciduous teeth in the upper and lower jaws

What is TEN:

toes, fingers, baby teeth on upper or lower jaws, decapod, decagon, decimal