

## Number Verses

**I have a family strange indeed  
Each member goes a different speed  
They can walk for half a day  
Counting footsteps all the way.**

### **Here's number one (It's Auntie Prim!)**

from Marsha Johnson

My name is Prim  
I'm tall and thin  
My walk is straight  
My clothes are trim  
Count my footsteps  
And you'll see  
That every one's  
The same for me.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 etc.

### **Here's number two (It's Grandpa Hugh!)**

from Marsha Johnson -- get out your "cane"  
step harder on every second step

But MY two STEPS are NOT the SAME  
For I must LEAN upON my CANE  
ALTHOUGH I'm BENT and WEAK and OLD  
I STILL can WALK with FOOTsteps BOLD

1 **2** 3 4 5 **6** 7 **8** 9 **10** 11 **12** etc.

### **Here's number three (It's little Timmy!)**

from Marsha Johnson - get out your "ball"  
step in a short, short, long pattern (bounce, bounce, reach for your ball)

I'm a LAD  
Bright and GAY  
I would MUCH  
Rather PLAY  
I can RUN  
With my BALL  
While my FOOT  
Steps I CALL

1 **2** **3** 4 5 **6** 7 8 **9** 10 11 **12** etc.

## Number Verses

### **Here's number four (It's Cousin Lenore!)**

from Marsha Johnson / Barbara Dewey  
march and step harder on every fourth step

My step is STRONG  
I'll not go WRONG  
With all my MIGHT  
I'll guard what's RIGHT  
I'll always KNOW  
How far to GO.

1 2 3 **4** 5 6 7 **8** 9 10 11 **12** etc.

### **Here's number five (It's Cousin Clive!)**

from Marsha Johnson  
tiptoe like a ballet dancer for verse and then leap for each number

Carefully I go  
On my tippy toe  
Looking to the left  
Looking to the right  
Lightly I arrive  
I am number five

**5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60** etc.

### **Here's number six (It's the Elf Beatrix!)**

from Barbara Dewey  
skip five times and hop on sixth beat

One, two, three, four, five, SIX  
I can do lots of TRICKS.  
I've a friend -- number THREE --  
He's a helper to ME.  
He has taught me to PLAY.  
But I have my own WAY.

1 2 3 4 5 **6** 7 8 9 10 11 **12** etc.

## Number Verses

### **Here's number seven (It's the Witch Raven!)**

wiggle fingers like casting a spell and then clap on last syllable  
excerpt from [Macbeth, Act IV, Scene I \[Round about the cauldron go\]](#)

Round about the cauldron GO [...]  
Fillet of a fenny SNAKE,  
In the cauldron boil and BAKE;  
Eye of newt and toe of FROG,  
Wool of bat and tongue of DOG,  
Adder's fork and blind-worm's STING,  
Lizard's leg and howlet's WING [...]  
Scale of dragon, tooth of WOLF,  
Witches' mummy, maw and GULF  
Of the ravin'd salt-sea SHARK

1 2 3 4 5 6 **7** 8 9 10 11 12 13 **14** etc.

### **Here's number eight (It's her cat, Hecate!)**

creep around the room and pounce on last syllable  
"On Guard" from [My Cat Has Eyes of Sapphire Blue](#) by Aileen Fisher, p.4

Oh, sweep the floor, but watch the BROOM!  
A mini-tiger stalks this ROOM,  
Prepared to pounce, to bring to DOOM  
A monster vicious as a BROOM.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 **8** 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 **16** etc.

### **Here's number nine (It's the Gnome Crystalline!)**

"Treasures" from [The Waldorf Book of Poetry](#) edited by David Kennedy, p.7  
get out your "hammer"  
tap with fingertips and knock with knuckles on last syllable

Through echoing caves we run and GLIDE,  
Through cracks in the rocks we slip and SLIDE,  
Over great boulders we leap and BOUND;  
Little lamps show where treasure is FOUND.  
We hammer, hammer from morn till NIGHT,  
We hammer, hammer treasure so BRIGHT,  
Sparkling silver, glittering GOLD,  
Crystals so pure and clear to beHOLD.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 **9** 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 **18** etc.

## Number Verses

### **Here's number ten (It's the Giant Sven!)**

from Marsha Johnson

take big steps pretending you're a giant

A giant am I, just sauntering BY  
To number so high I quickly will FLY.

**10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100** etc.

These number verses have been compiled from a variety of sources.

Verses for 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 10 were adapted from an anonymous poem from a long-ago Waldorf teacher. Movement suggestions have been provided by Marsha Johnson, who also created the names for 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.

Verses for 7, 8, and 9 were chosen by me, inspired by the Dorothy Harrer poem "From Big Voice to Tiny Voice," found in Verses and Poems and Stories to Tell, page 3. This book is available in its entirety as a FREE download at the Online Waldorf Library. <https://www.waldorflibrary.org/books/3/view/52/ebooks/149/verses-and-poems-stories-to-tell-ebook>

I have named the characters for 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10, inspired by Dorothy Harrer's poem. New verses match the characters I've created and their sources have been cited here. Each verse has been very slightly modified to match the desired syllable patterns. For 6, 7, 8, and 9, I've also created movements.

Please let me know if you have any questions,  
Renee Schwartz