

# My Nine Book

written by  
Jane Belk Moncure

illustrated by  
Anna DiVito



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by Jane Belk Moncure  
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SCHOLASTIC INC.

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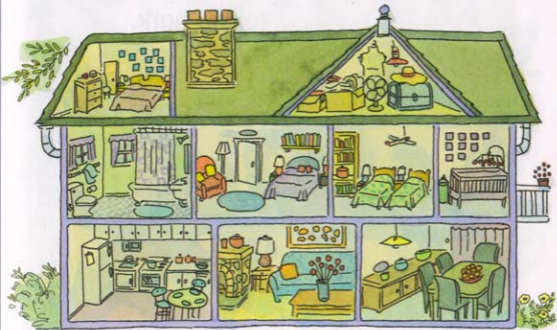


This is Little




He lives in the house of nine.

The house of nine has nine rooms.



Count them.

Every day Little  goes for a walk.  
One day he walks  
to the park.



He sees two toy astronauts on a bench . . .



and seven toy astronauts sitting under a tree.  
How many toy astronauts does he see?



The next day, Little  sees them again.



“We have lost our spaceships!” they say.  
“We need them for the toy parade.”

“I will help you,” says Little  
He hops five hops on one  
foot and four hops on the  
other foot. Can you?



Guess where he finds the first toy spaceship?

He finds the second, third, fourth,  
and fifth spaceships . . .




under a bridge.

Now five toy astronauts hop into their toy spaceships.



“Wait,” says Little

“Wait for the other astronauts!”  
How many astronauts are missing?



Little **nine** finds the sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth toy spaceships in a sandbox in the park.




The four toy astronauts are happy.

Then all the toy astronauts fly away in their spaceships. Count them.



“Watch the parade!” they shout.



Little **nine** hops six hops on one foot  
and three hops on the  
other foot. Can you?



Guess what he finds?

He finds nine toy soldiers standing in a line. They are very sad.



“The toy parade is about to begin and we have lost our nine drums,” they say.



"I will help you," says Little



He finds six drums under a picnic table.  
How many are still lost?

Now six happy soldiers beat their drums.  
*Tum-tum-tum, tum-tum-tum.*



“Wait!” says Little



“Wait for the other drummers.”  
How many drums are missing?

Little **nine** finds . . .



two drums under the leaves . . .

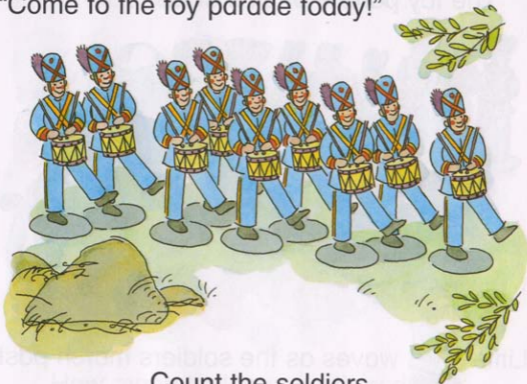
and one



behind a rock.

Now will each soldier have a drum?

As the happy soldiers march away, they say,  
“Come to the toy parade today!”



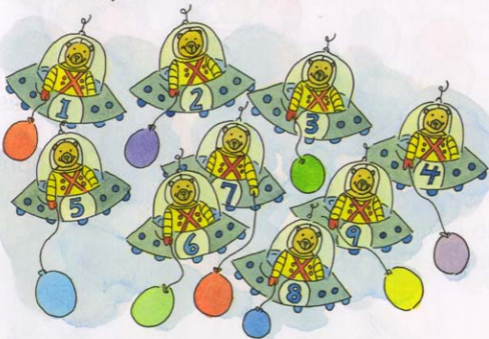
Count the soldiers.

Then they march right down the street.  
The toy parade begins at last.

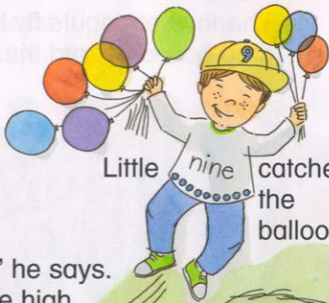


Little **nine** waves as the soldiers march past.

The toy astronauts fly by and drop balloons from the sky.



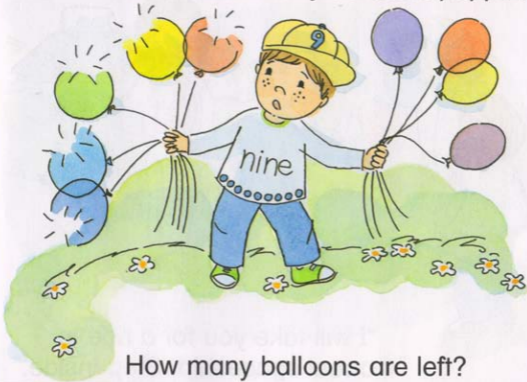
How many balloons do they drop?



Little nine catches  
the balloons.

“I want to fly,” he says.  
He jumps nine high  
jumps. Can you?

He does not fly. *Pop, pop, pop, pop, pop* go some balloons. How many balloons popped?





Guess what? A real astronaut comes by.  
"I will help you," she says.



"I will take you for a ride in  
a real spaceship. Step inside."

“Count down! Nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three, two, one. Blast off!”



Away they go—zoom!

Little **nine** found nine of everything.



nine  
balloons



nine toy spaceships

nine toy  
soldiers




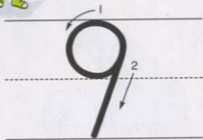
nine toy  
drums



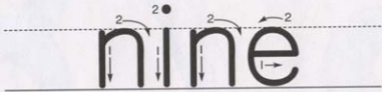
nine toy astronauts

Now you find nine things.

Little  makes a 9 this way:



He makes the number word like this:



You can make them in the air with your finger.



Introduce your child to Little Nine, an imaginative and lighthearted boy who enjoys counting to nine. Join Little Nine as he counts his lively toys.

**My First Steps to Math™** makes learning math fun!

Each book features a different character your child will love and focuses on a single number. Together, these books provide a strong foundation for math awareness,

helping your child to develop the early skills of number recognition, counting, and even simple addition and subtraction.

Creatively written by early childhood educator Jane Belk Moncure, the **My First Steps to Math™** series will not only help your child learn to love numbers but also to master the essential concepts. Before you know it your child will be stepping up to math with confidence!

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