

“ONE, TWO, THREE”

It was an old, old, old, old lady,
And a boy that was half-past three;
And the way that they played together
Was beautiful to see.

She couldn't go romping and jumping,
And the boy, no more could he,
For he was a thin little fellow,
With a thin little twisted knee.

They sat in the yellow sunlight,
Out under the maple tree;
And the game that they played I'll tell you,
Just as it was told to me.

It was Hide - and - Go - Seek they were playing,
Though you'd never have known it to be –
With an old, old, old, old lady,
And a boy with a twisted knee.

The boy would bend his face down
On his one little sound right knee,
And he guessed where she was hiding,
In guesses One, Two, Three!

"You are in the china closet!"

He would cry and laugh with glee-

It wasn't the china closet,

But he still had Two and Three.

"You are up in Papa's big bedroom,

In the chest with the queer old key!"

And she said:" You are *warm* and *warmer*,

But you're not quite right, "said she.

"It can't be the little cupboard

Where Mamma's things used to be,

So it must be the clothespress, Granma!"

And he found her with his Three.

Then she covered her face with her fingers,

That were wrinkled and white and wee,

And she guessed where the boy was hiding,

With a One and a Two and a Three.

And they had never stirred from their places,

Right under the maple tree-

This old, old, old, old lady,

And the boy with the lame little knee –

This dear, dear, dear old lady,

And the boy who was half-past three.

Read the poem carefully and answer the following questions:

1. Why do you think the poem is called "One, Two, Three"?

2. What were the little boy and the old lady playing?

3. How did they play their game?

4. Why didn't they play the game in a regular way like you and your friends play?

5. Where did the grandmother hide?

6. How old was the boy?

7. List three compound words from the poem.

8. Name two make-believe games you would like to play with your grandparents.

9. List three verbs from the poem.

10. The two characters mentioned in the poem are an old woman and a little boy with a disability. If you had a chance to play with such a little boy, mention three ways of how you would adjust yourself in the best possible manners to make him feel at ease and not dejected.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

ANSWER SHEET

1. Because three guesses were made by counting one, two and three.
2. Hide and Seek game.
3. They were seated under a maple tree. They imagine the hide and seek game in a make-believe way. The boy would bend his face down on his right knee and make the guesses. The old lady would cover her face with her fingers and make the guesses.
4. They couldn't run about because the grandmother was very, very old and the boy was a very thin fellow with a twisted knee.
5. In the clothespress.
6. Three and a half years old.
7. Sunlight, bedroom, cupboard.
8. –
9. Romping, jumping, sat. ...
10. Examples:
 1. Let him choose the game to play and adjust to his preference.
 2. Treat him kindly and patiently, as you would like others to treat you.
 3. Play the game according to his speed and ability.