

Little goose graduates



By Jodie

To [REDACTED]

Who can count to one hundred and beyond.

Warm and cozy, the little goose lays.



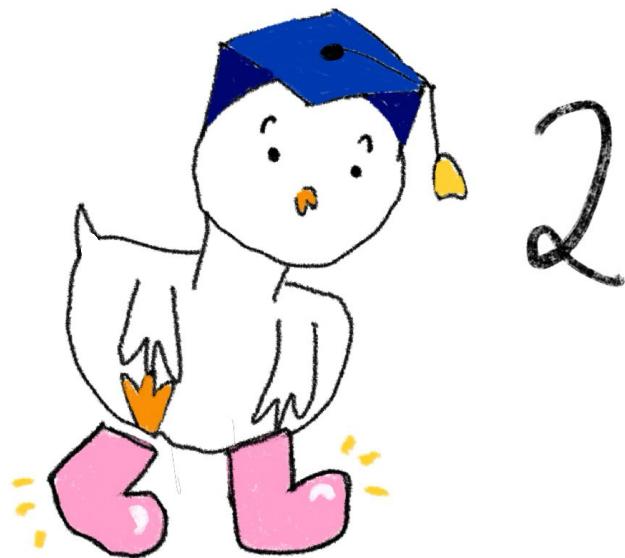
But suddenly, she's awake! It's graduation day!

She grabs her one hat



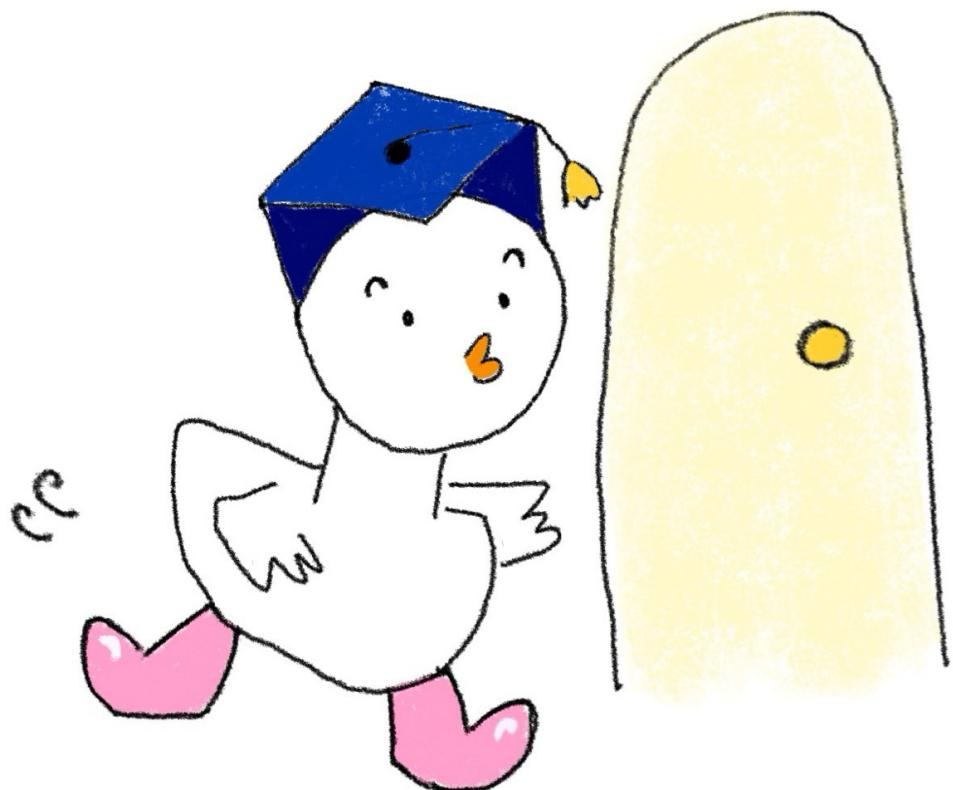
1

and her two shiny shoes.



2

Then dashes outside - there's no time to lose!



She greets three butterflies by the gate.

They call, "Come play! It's okay to be late!"



She laughs and says, "I wish I could too—"

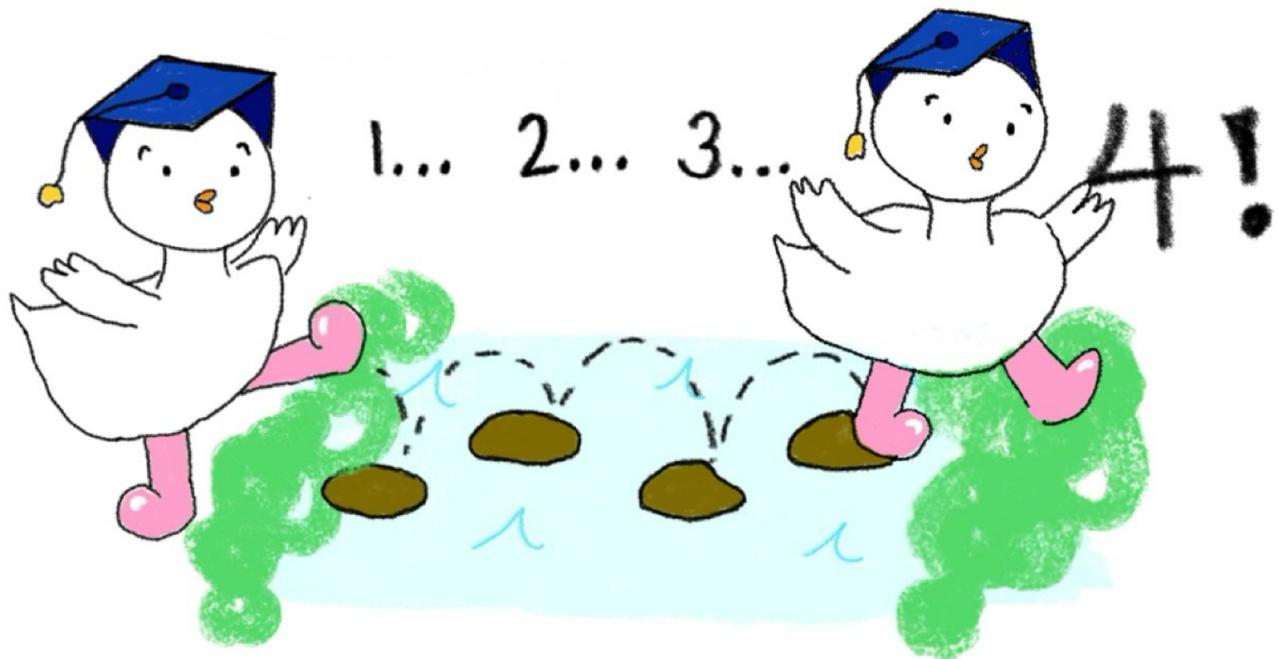
"But there's something important I need to do!"

Soon, the little goose comes across a creek.

"Oh no!" she frets. "My shiny shoes will leak!"



She steps with care - one, two, three, four -
And makes it safely to the other shore!



She flaps her wings and gives a cheer,
"I did it myself! I'm brave, I'm here!"



She keeps on walking, head held high,

the trees get denser as she goes by.



But when she steps into the shady wood,

Her stomach growls! This isn't good!

But then, she spots a sleepy bear under a tree.



"Perhaps this fuzzy friend might help me!"

"Excuse me, Bear, could you help me reach that fruit?"

The bear gives a yawn—



—then a grin, warm and cute.



"Of course!" says the bear, with a stretch and a heave,
and he lifts the little goose on his blue sleeve.

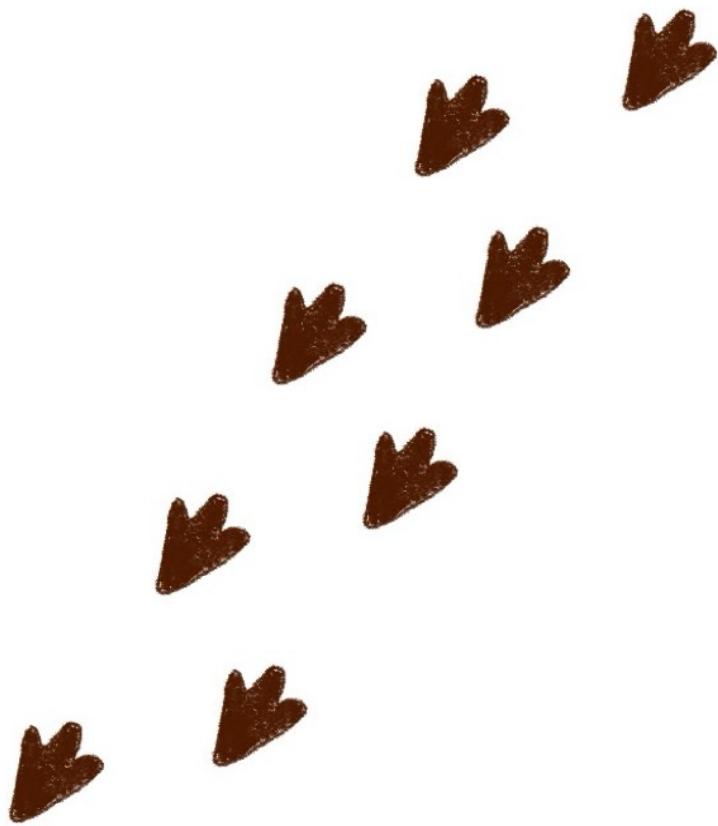
Goose pecks five berries from the tree
and feels a burst of energy!



"Thank you, Bear, for all your help today."
She waves her wing and goes on her way.

But the forest has many trees, and the path is unclear

"Which way do I go? Which way do I steer?"



Then she sees some goose feet pressed into the ground

"Oh! Tracks like mine - look what I've found!"

She follows the footprints into the wood,
past six trees and seven bushes which stood.

Then suddenly, she finds herself on a ledge
- a bridge has fallen! There's no path ahead!



But then a bird calls from eight above,
"You can fly too! Open your wings, my love!"



She starts unsure if what to do,
she ruffles her feathers, flaps once - then two.

The wind lifts gently underneath her feet,
her heart skips a beat - then beat, beat, beat!



Up she rises, past the ledge so steep,
over the trees, the bushes, and the deep.

She hears familiar voices just around the bend!

Nine little birds call out to their friend:

"Little goose, little goose, you've finally come!"



"Now we can
celebrate, as
ten in sum!"

9 . . . 10!