

Review reference

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The Matchstick Man Counts – German, English, Turkish

Foreign languages have been introduced to primary schools from Year 1 and will soon be tested in many nursery schools. The sturdy, hard paperback picture story book helps children learn to count to 10 in three languages using objects from their daily life. A special role is given to the interweaving of the German mother tongue with the Turkish mother tongue and English as the first common foreign language (the same picture book is available in Russian, also in this no.). On a blue background one ball, two rubber ducks, three paper umbrellas etc. are presented, and a small matchstick man leads the way through the world of numbers. As the numbers only have a whole page each from number seven onwards, there is a lack of clarity. Naturally a native speaker would be useful for the Turkish pronunciation – within the spirit of integration, however, parents could also be addressed. Language ability and an understanding of the difficulties involved in learning German as a second language can be easily practised in a playful way with this book. Recommended.

The Matchstick Man Counts – German, English, Russian

Foreign languages have been introduced to primary schools from Year 1 and will soon be tested in many nursery schools and this is where this sturdy, hard paperback picture story book can be used to help children learn to count to 10 in three languages using objects from their daily life. A special role is given to the interweaving of the German mother tongue with the Russian mother tongue and English as the first common foreign language (the same picture book is available in Turkish, also in this no.). A comical matchstick man leads the way through the world of numbers up to 10 and invites the reader to count along: one ball, five piggy banks, eight flowers etc. As the numbers only have a whole page each from number seven onwards, there is a lack of clarity. The Cyrillic script has unfortunately not been transcribed, so that in any event the help of a native speaker is necessary – within the spirit of integration parents could also be addressed. The small

book encourages language ability and awakens an understanding of the difficulties incurred by re-settled and migrant children. Recommended.