

# Two-Two the Tooth Fairy



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# Two-Two the Tooth Fairy



A STORY FOR YOU FROM  
Big Math for Little Kids™

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Matthew called Two-Two the Tooth Fairy on the telephone. He said, "My tooth fell out, and I put it under my pillow. Please bring me a present."

Two-Two said, "Okay. Where do you live?"

"I live in Stow," Matthew said.

"I know where Stow is, and I'll be there soon," said Two-Two. A little later, Matthew looked up at the sky and saw Two-Two flying around in lazy circles.



Matthew's phone rang. It was Two-Two.

"Matthew," she said, "which house is yours?"

"It's the blue one with me and my brother, Andrew. Mommy and Daddy live here, too."

Two-Two said, "Matthew, I need better directions."

"I've got to think about this," said Matthew.

"Can I call you back?"





Matthew thought and thought. “I know that my house is blue. But when Two-Two looks down from way up in the sky, what does she see? She sees lots and lots of houses. And many of the houses are blue. How can she tell which blue house I live in?”

Matthew dialed 222-2222. That's Two-Two's number.

"I think I understand," said Matthew.  
"You don't see what I see. Things look different from way up there."

"Yes," said Two-Two. "That's why I need good directions."

Matthew was stuck. He wasn't sure how to give directions.





Then Two-Two had an idea. “Let’s make a map. I can see a big park. Do you know where the park is?”

“Yes,” said Matthew. “The park is near the ice-cream store. It’s also near my school.”

Two-Two said, “Okay, I see the ice-cream store. Oh, and there’s the school!”

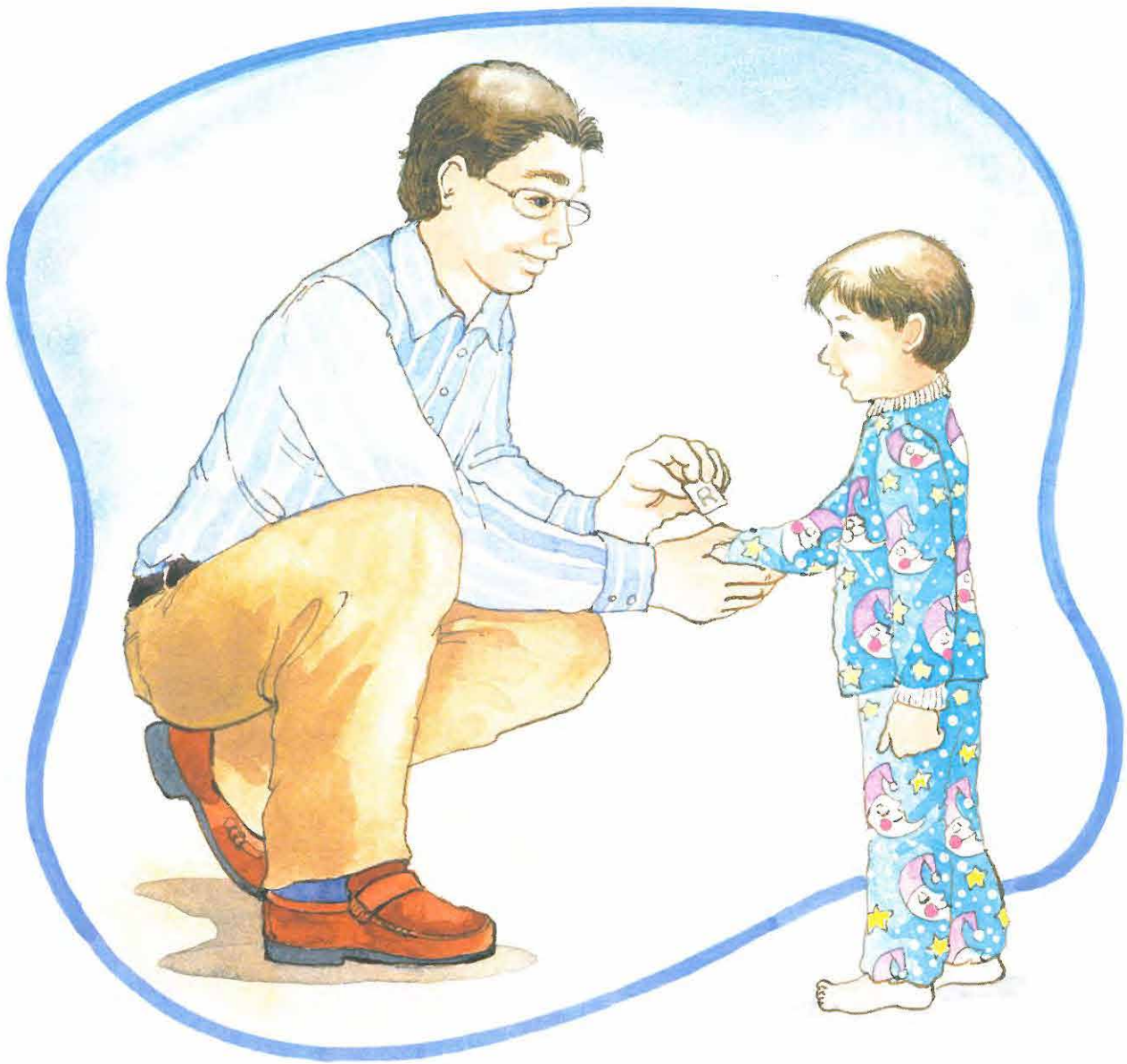
She began to draw a map.

Two-Two said, “Okay, now make believe you’re at school. You get on your bus to go home. Where do you go?”

“We drive straight ahead,” said Matthew. “We pass one street, then another. Then we come to my street.”

Two-Two said, “Now I can draw more of the map! Here’s the first street. Here’s the second street. And here’s the third street! That’s your street!”





Two-Two said, “Matthew, do you turn right or left onto your street?”

Matthew said, “That’s a tough question. Even big kids like me have a hard time remembering right and left. Can I call you back?”

Matthew asked his father for help. “Daddy, how can I remember right and left?”

“You could put a sticker on your right hand to help you remember,” his father answered.

Matthew went back to his room. He pretended to be riding home on the school bus. “Which way does the bus turn when it gets to my street?” Matthew remembered! “The bus turns toward the sticker, toward the right!”





Matthew dialed 222-2222 again. “I figured it out,” he said. “The bus turns right.”

Two-Two said, “Great! Now our map can show a right turn. Okay, where does the bus go next?”

“That’s another tough question,” said Matthew. “I’ll have to think about it and call you back.”



Matthew pretended to be riding the bus down his street. Then he remembered! “The bus drops off Miguel at his house. Then it drops off Naoko at her house. Finally, it stops at my house! Miguel is first. Naoko is second. And I am third.”

Matthew called Two-Two. “First the bus stops at Miguel’s house, then at Naoko’s house, then at my house! All three houses are on the left side of the street. That’s the side without the sticker.”

Two-Two was very happy. “That’s wonderful. Now I can finish our map.”



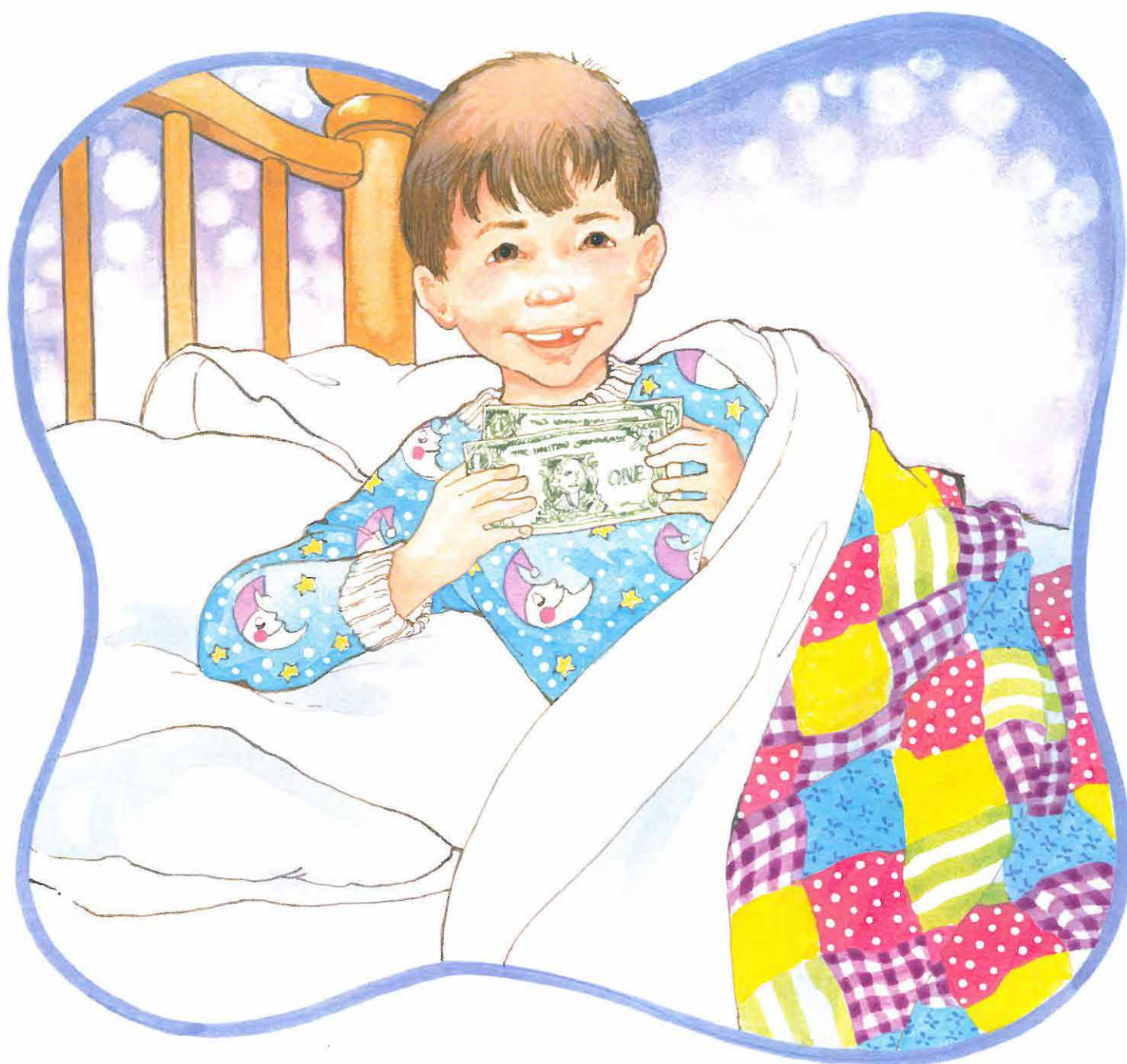
Two-Two put away her phone. She flew past the ice-cream store and the school. She passed one street and then another. Then she turned right onto Matthew's street. She went past the first house on the left and then past the second house. THEN SHE CAME TO THE THIRD HOUSE, MATTHEW'S HOUSE!





By this time, Matthew was very, very tired. Helping Two-Two make a map was a lot of work. He had thought so hard about how the school bus drove home. He had learned right and left. He had figured out first, second, and third. He had made so many phone calls! So Matthew fell asleep.

Matthew did not see Two-Two fly into his room. He did not see Two-Two take the tooth from under his pillow. He did not see Two-Two give him a kiss. But the next day, he made a wonderful discovery. Two-Two had left two dollar bills under his pillow! Maybe that's why she's called Two-Two.





Kindergarten

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