

once upon a time there was a little wolf named Max. Max lived in a forest at the edge of a small town.

One day Max said to his mother, "I am not a little wolf any more. I would like to go and see the town."

Max's mother thought and thought. Finally she said, "You are right, Max. You may go and visit the town. But be home in time for lunch."

Max thanked his mother and ran off. He walked through the forest until he came to the edge of the town. As he stepped out of the woods, he saw a little street. The sign at the end of the street said, "Decimal Street®"

Max looked all around. He saw houses lined up in a neat row. But instead of people, Max saw pigs. There were mama pigs and daddy pigs and baby pigs. There were pig children playing in their yards. Max walked up to a little pig who was digging in the dirt.

"Hello! I am Max!" said the little wolf.

"I'm Uni," said the little pig. He stood up

and wiped his dirty hooves on his green shirt. "Do you want to play in the dirt with me?"

"No, thank you," said Max. "I live in the forest. I am here to visit the town." He looked at Uni's house. It was a nice little green house, just right for a little pig. "I like your house," said Max.

"Would you like to see inside?" asked Uni. "Yes, I would, thank you," said Max. He followed Uni's curly tail through the front door.

Max looked all around. Everything in Uni's house was green. There was a green sofa. There was a green dining room table with 9 chairs. On the wall hung 9 pictures, each with the smiling face of a little pig. In another room, Max saw 9 little beds. Max was curious. "I see 9 of everything," Max said.

"Oh, yes," said Uni. "There are 9 people in my family. This house is just the right size for the 9 of us."

"I see," said Max. "Thank you for letting me see your house. I would like to see more of the town now. I will come back another time and play with you."

"I would like that," said Uni. "See you later!"

Uni showed Max out the door. Max went down the street to the next house. Here he saw a tall skinny pig drawing with chalk on the sidewalk.

"Hello! I am Max!" said the little wolf.
"I'm Ted," said the tall skinny pig. He stood up and wiped chalk dust on his blue shirt. "Do you want to draw with me?"

"No, thank you," said Max. "I live in the forest. I am here to visit the town." He looked at Ted's house. It was a tall blue house, just right for a tall skinny pig. "I like your house," said Max.

"Would you like to see inside?" asked Ted.

"Yes, I would, thank you," said Max. As he followed Ted through the front door, he noticed that everything in Ted's house was blue. There was a blue loveseat. There was a blue dining room table with 9 chairs. On the wall hung 9 pictures, each with the smiling face of a tall skinny pig.

In another room, Max saw 9 long skinny beds. Max was surprised. "You have 9 of everything here, just like Uni does!"

"Oh, yes," said Ted. "There are 9 people in my family, too. This house is just the right size for the 9 of us."

Now Max was wondering about the other houses on Decimal Street[®]. "Thank you for letting me see your house. I would like to see the rest of the town now."

"Sure!" said Ted as he opened the door for Max. "Come back any time!"

Max went to the next house on Decimal Street[®]. It was a big red house that looked like a castle. In the yard there was a big pig fixing a bike.

"Hello! I am Max!" said the little wolf.
"I'm Red," said the pig. He stood up and wiped bike oil on his red shirt. "Do you

want to help me fix my bike?"

"No, thank you," said Max. "I live in the forest. I am here to visit the town." He looked up, up, up at Red's house. "My, you have a big house!" said Max.

"Would you like to see inside?" asked Red.

"Yes, I would, thank you," said Max. As he stepped through the front door, he was not surprised to see that everything was red. There was a red rug. There was a red dining room table with 9 chairs. On the wall hung 9 pictures, each with the smiling face of a big pig. In another room, Max saw 9 big beds. "You must have 9 people in your family, too!" Max said.

"Oh, yes," said Red. "There are 9 people in every family on Decimal Street[®]. Each family has a house that is just the right size."

"I see," said Max. Suddenly he saw a clock up on the wall. "Oh!" he cried. "I have to go home now! It is time for lunch!"

"Okay," said Red. "Please come back and play with me some time."

"I will do that," promised Max. He left Red's big red castle house. He ran past Ted's tall blue house. He ran past Uni's little green house. He ran past the Decimal Street® sign and into the forest. He ran all the way to his own house, where his mother was waiting.

As Max ate his lunch, he told his mother all about Decimal Street[®]. He told her about Uni, Ted, and Red. He told her about the houses on Decimal Street[®] and how there were 9 people in every family.

"I had so much fun on Decimal Street®!" said Max. "I can't wait to visit again!"





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