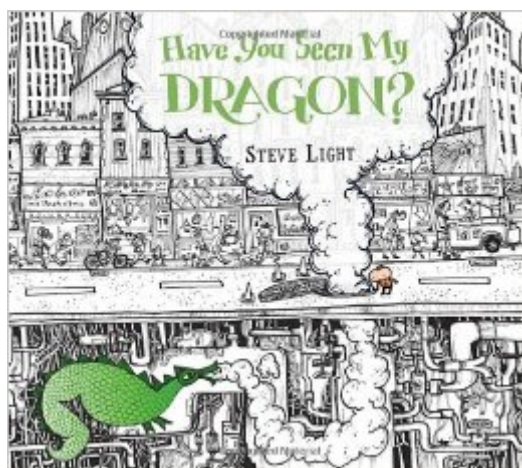


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# Have You Seen My Dragon?



## Synopsis

Enter a fascinating, ornately drawn cityscape and help a boy find his dragon while counting objects from hot dogs to traffic lights. In the heart of the city, among the taxis and towers, a small boy travels uptown and down, searching for his friend. Readers will certainly spot the glorious beast, plus an array of big-city icons they can count. Is the dragon taking the crosstown bus, or breathing his fiery breath below a busy street? Maybe he took a taxi to the zoo or is playing with the dogs in the park. Steve Light's™ masterful pen-and-ink illustrations, decorated with meticulous splashes of color, elevate this counting book (numbers 1 to 20) to new heights. Maybe the dragon is up there, too!

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD160L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 48 pages

Publisher: Candlewick (April 8, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0763666483

ISBN-13: 978-0763666484

Product Dimensions: 11 x 0.4 x 9.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars See all reviews (111 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #20,680 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #34 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > City Life #51 in Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Basic Concepts > Colors #90 in Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Basic Concepts > Counting

Age Range: 2 - 5 years

Grade Level: Preschool - Kindergarten

## Customer Reviews

This is a story about a boy who goes in search for a dragon that he has lost. The pictures are all drawn in ink so the majority of the book is in black and white, just like the cover of the book suggests. When you open the book you will see that the pictures and story takes up both the left and right side of the book. For example, the first page is a picture of a green dragon that starts on the left side of the book and continues on the right side, and this is the format throughout the book. As I said, it is a mostly black and white book. The only color in the book are the objects that need to be counted. Below I will give some examples of what I am talking about. Keep in mind I am NOT going to

mention what is in the background of the picture, it would be too much to explain, just know that there is a background picture that is in pen and ink. Very well done illustrations may I add. On the first two pages is a picture of one green dragon. A boy is asking a man, "Have you seen my dragon?" The man replies, "No? I will look for him." On the second two pages the boy is at a hot dog stand and there are two brown hot dogs, one on each side of the page. The words are, "Maybe he got hungry and stopped for a hot dog." On the next pages are three purple buses. The words are, "Or perhaps he went downtown on the bus." Then the next one would be 4 blue sail boats and the words are, "It's possible he went for a swim." Other colored pictures, with words, for a child to find are, 5 water towers, 6 monkeys, 7 boxes, 8 fire hydrants, 9 books, 10 paint cans, 11 manhole covers, 12 pigeons, 13 ice cream cones, 14 dogs, 15 balloons, 16 subway cars, 17 taxis, 18 bicycles, 19 green lights, and 20 lanterns.

When I grew up in Kalamazoo, Michigan I would get this little thrill every time my city appeared in a children's book. Which is to say, every time it was mentioned in Horton Hatches the Egg. Honestly, for all that it had a cool name it really didn't come up anywhere else. New York kids must be rather jaded in this regard. Anytime a city book is set somewhere other than Manhattan or Brooklyn, they probably scratch their little heads in confusion (I can attest to this personally as my two-year-old calls any and all cities she sees in books "New York City" and will not be corrected). As a NYC transplant I probably mind this more if it weren't for the fact that so many of these books are so doggone splendid. Take Steve Light's latest, *Have You Seen My Dragon?* A riot of miniscule details, numbers, colors, familiar city elements, and a magnificent, fantastic creature always hidden in plain sight, Light gives us a city dragon worth remembering long after the pages are turned. You would think it would be difficult to mislay a dragon. You would be wrong. When our story begins a young boy is asking a doorman whether or not he's seen his dragon. "No? I will look for him." Never you mind that if the boy merely turned his head 90 degrees to the left he'd see his ginormous pet sniffing an understandably wary pup. From here it's a race across the city. Everywhere the boy goes the numbers go up. The dragon perches atop a hot dog stand where they are selling "2 Hot dogs". It peers down from a roof at the "3 Buses" below. It gets a quick drink from one of the "5 Water towers". On the endpapers you can see the circuitous path the dragon takes through a slightly compacted lower Manhattan until, at last, the boy spots him in Chinatown, smiling widely from between the "20 Lanterns".

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