

# Folk & Traditional Song Lyrics

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## The Wee Kirkcudbright Centipede

The Wee Kirkcudbright Centipede  
(Matt McGinn)

Oh, the wee Kirkcudbright Centipede, oh, she was very sweet  
She was very proud of every one of her hundred feet  
Early every morning, her neighbors came to glance  
She always entertained them with a beautiful little dance.

Chorus

As leg number 94 gave 95 a shunt  
Legs number 1 and 2 were twisted out in front  
Legs number 9 and 10 came wriggling up the side  
73 and 74 were doing the parlor glide.

Now her neighbor, Jenny Longlegs, with jealousy was mad  
She went out and bought herself a pencil and a pad  
She came to look one morning, she made a careful note  
Of every step the centipede made and this is what she wrote:

Chorus (substitute Well for As)

Now with her exact notations, little Jenny Longlegs tried  
To dance just like the centipede, she failed and nearly cried  
She grabbed hold of the centipede, and said, "Now have a look,  
Show me how to do this dance I've written in my book."

(no chorus)

The centipede said, "Do I do that?" tried to demonstrate  
She hadn't thought it out before, and didn't do too great  
Her hundred feet got twisted and she wound up in a tangle  
She fractured 14 kneecaps, 7 shinbones and an ankle.

Chorus (this verse only)

As legs number 1 and 2 were tied with 3 and 4  
Legs number 5 and 6 were canceled on the floor  
Leg number 17 was attacked by number 10  
98 and 99 will never dance again.

Oh, the wee Kirkcudbright Centipede she suffered in terrible pain  
And all the bugs were very surprised the day she danced again  
And now she tells her neighbors, anyone who comes to see,

"Never try an explanation of what comes naturally!"

Chorus