

35. NEW YEAR AROUND THE WORLD

Welcome song

K: Welcome to our fun learning radio broadcast with Kiki and Mr. Suits!
This program was created in collaboration with Azyzah Educational and Interactive Theatre.

S: Nice to meet you friends!

K: Our question today is from Linda, who is 12 years old from Ostrov, Czech Republic.

S: Hi, Kiki and Mr. Suits, could you tell us about New Year's celebrations?

K: Yes! Ready to learn about New Year's celebrations?

S: Let's go!

Theme

S: 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5

K: Mr. Suits, what are you doing?

S: It's New Year's Eve, Kiki, I'm practicing my countdown.

K: Midnight is still hours away.

S: I know. Can it be the New Year now?

K: Actually, on the island of Tonga in the Pacific Ocean, it already is.

S: Really? I wonder how they welcomed the New Year. Do you think they had fireworks?

K: Sure. Maybe they ate some special foods, too.

S: Like in Spain, where people eat 12 grapes as the clock strikes midnight.

K: Yum! In the Philippines people only eat round foods, and wear clothes with circles. They believe it will bring them money in the New Year.

S: Weird. - But in Denmark, people throw plates at the door for good luck.

K: Crazy! And dangerous. - Do you have any New Year's traditions in Canada?

S: We usually have a party with friends and family. And people wear funny hats. At midnight we toast to the New Year and kiss our loved ones.

K: Look, Mr. Suits, it's almost midnight! Let's get ready.

S+K: 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1! Happy New Year, everyone! Woo!

S: Friends, do you have any special New Year's traditions? Let us know and we will talk about them in another episode.

Story

S: Woo-hoo! It's story time!

K: Today's story is about a reckless count.

Once upon a time in Germany, there lived a count who only loved two things . hunting and his precious golden ring. One snowy Christmas Eve, he was hunting in the forest and found a well.

(S) COUNT: People call this the Fairy Well.

K: The water was warm.

(S) COUNT: Strange, it feels like someone caressing my hand. . Oh no, my gold ring is gone!

K: That night he heard music. In the great hall he found a beautifully decorated tree. People were dancing around it.

(S) COUNT: Who are you? Why is this tree here?

K: A beautiful woman dressed in gold walked to up him.

(K) FAIRY: I am the queen of the fairies. I came to return your ring.

K: They danced and the count fell madly in love.

(S) COUNT: Please marry me!

(K) FAIRY: I will. But you must never speak the word ~~death~~ in my presence.

(S) COUNT: I promise!

K: For a time, they were happy. Then New Year's Eve came.

(S) COUNT: Let's go hunting. But hurry, it will be dark soon.

K: Unfortunately, his wife was late.

(S) COUNT: Finally! What took you so long? You would make a good messenger to send for Death!

K: The Fairy Queen cried out and vanished.

(S) COUNT: Oh no, I'm sorry, my love!

K: Every year, the count put up a Christmas tree, hoping his wife would return to him, but she never forgave his broken promise.

THE END

Goodbye song