

# Jack and the Beanstalk

retold by Paul Galdone

The action-filled, warm-toned visuals and verse translation combine to bring this 1807 fairy tale to life for a new generation.



## Read

### Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *What would you do if you met a giant?* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder if the giant knows Jack is on his foot?

### During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out "rare words" (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

### Rare Words in *Jack and the Beanstalk*

- sixpence: a small silver-covered coin used in Britain from 1550-1980
- exquisite: finely beautiful
- spruce: to make a person cleaner and neater in appearance
- hastened: to do something immediately
- sage: a plant with aromatic leaves
- savory: having an appetizing taste or smell
- tidbits: small morsel of food
- peddler: somebody who peddles goods
- farthing: a former British coin worth a quarter of a sixpence
- virtues: goodness or good quality
- pother: nervous state or commotion
- spade: digging tool used while gardening
- blunder: to make a serious mistake
- damsel: girl or young woman
- hence: because of this
- dainty: delicate, tasty, refined in taste
- excessive: more than is acceptable
- bargain: cheap purchase
- parson: a member of the clergy

## After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What did Jack's mom find on the floor?
- What did she tell Jack to buy?
- What did Jack buy instead?
- What did he do with the bean?
- What grew from the bean?
- What did Jack find when he climbed the beanstalk?
- Who did he meet?
- What happened when the giant arrived?
- How did Jack return home?
- How did the story end?



**Do**

## Grow-a-bean

You will need: paper cups (one for each child), planting soil or dirt, water, any kind of vegetable seed, spoons and pencils

Give each child a cup, spoon and two or three seeds. Allow the children to scoop the soil into their cups, make 2 or 3 holes with a pencil for the seeds (about 1-2 inches below the surface), drop one seed in each hole and then cover with soil. Water the cups and place in a well lit area. Read the back of the seed package to estimate the gestational period of your vegetable and for any other special instructions that will add in the proper care of the plant.