

Jack and the Beanstalk

by Paul Galdone

A verse version, with lively pictures providing just the right accompaniment, of the well-known Jack and the Beanstalk



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, *Have any of you ever planted a bean?* 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 those shoes belong to the giant?

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-colored coin worth 6 old pennies or 2.5 new pence
- surveyed: to look at something closely
- exquisite: very beautiful and delicate
- treasure: jewels and precious objects
- spruce: to make a person cleaner and neater in appearance
- protest: complain or object strongly
- hastened: do something immediately
- tidbits: a small, usually bite-sized piece of delicious food
- peddler: someone who travels from place to place selling goods
- damsel: a girl or young unmarried woman
- parson: a minister

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Have you ever found money on the floor? What did you buy with it?
- Jack's mother gave him the sixpence she found on the floor. What did she send him to buy at the fair? What did he buy instead?
- Have you ever gone to a fair? What were some of the things you did at the fair?
- If you planted a bean, how big do you think it would grow?
- What happened to the giant? Are there really giants?
- What type of feast did they have after the giant was killed?
- After their feast, what did Jack and his damsel do?

Do

Plant a Bean Seed

Have the children plant their own bean seed to watch it grow.