

# Jack and the Beanstalk



Once upon a time, there was a boy called Jack. Jack lived in a cottage with his mother. They were very poor and their most valuable possession was a cow. One day, Jack's mother asked him to take the cow to market to sell. On the way, Jack met a man who gave him some magic beans in exchange for the cow.



When Jack came home with the beans his mother was angry. She threw the beans out of the window and sent him to bed. The next morning, Jack looked out of the window. A giant beanstalk had grown in the garden! Jack decided to climb the beanstalk. It was so tall, it went right up to the sky and through the clouds!

When Jack finally reached the top, he saw an enormous castle. Jack decided to go inside; all the furniture was huge! Suddenly, Jack heard a loud noise. He ran into a cupboard to hide. A huge giant came into the room. "Fee, Fi, Fo, Fum, I smell the blood of an Englishman!" he bellowed. The giant sat down at the table. On the table was a hen and a golden harp. "Lay!" said the giant and the hen laid an egg; it was made out of solid gold. "Sing!" said the giant and the harp sang. The beautiful music made the giant fall asleep.



Jack jumped out of the cupboard and took the hen and the harp. As he ran, the harp cried, "Help master!"

The giant woke up and called, "Fee, Fi, Fo, Fum, I smell the blood of an Englishman!" He chased Jack to the top of the beanstalk. Jack climbed down the beanstalk and the giant followed him.

As Jack got to the bottom of the beanstalk, he shouted, "Help!" Jack's mother came out with an axe. She used it to chop the bottom of the beanstalk. The giant fell and crashed to the ground. He was never seen again. With the golden eggs and the magic harp, Jack and his mother lived happily ever after.



# Questions

1. What animal did Jack sell? Tick **one**.

- chicken
- cow
- horse
- pig

2. What grew in the garden? Tick **one**.

- a beanstalk
- a harp
- an egg
- an axe

3. How do you know the beanstalk was very tall?

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4. What **two** things were on the table in the castle?

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5. What did Jack's mother do to the beanstalk?

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6. Do you think the ending is happy for everyone in the story? Explain your answer.

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2. What grew in the garden? Tick **one**.

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- a harp
- an egg
- an axe

3. How do you know the beanstalk was very tall?

**It says it was 'giant' and so tall that it went 'right up into the sky and through the clouds'.**

4. What **two** things were on the table in the castle?

**A hen and a golden harp.**

5. What did Jack's mother do to the beanstalk?

**Jack's mother chopped down the beanstalk with an axe.**

6. Do you think the ending is happy for everyone in the story? Explain your answer.

**Pupils' own response, such as: 'I think it was happy for Jack and his mother as Jack got home safely and they now had the hen that laid golden eggs and the magic harp. It was not a happy ending for the giant however as he fell to the ground and was never seen again.'**