

Let's Make a Story

Jack and the Beanstalk

Adapted by Gordon Lamont

Hello there. Off to market are you, like me? Do you mind if we travel together? It's such a lovely day. I'm Jack and this...is Wynona. I expect you've worked out she's a cow. My mother told me to take her to the market to sell her. We're a bit poor at the moment, you see, so we need some money for food.

'Make sure you get a good price!' mother said.

I do tend to get a bit muddled from time to time and forget things, see? Anyway, as I said, Wynona's taking me to market to buy some food for mum... er...no that's not it. Erm...I've got to sell mum to buy a market and then...oh no that's not it either.

Oh, look can you help me please? Talk about it all together so I can get it straight in my mind. Where am I? Where am I going? And what am I going to do when I get there? Could you do that for me? I would be ever so grateful!

Sit down with a partner.

Well thank you for your help but the most amazing thing just happened and I might have solved all of our problems!

While you were talking this man came up to me. 'Hallo, hallo,' he says, 'I'm Beany Bob from the Bobbing Bank. That's a mighty fine looking cow you have there if I may speak so plainly.'

So we fell into conversation and I introduced myself and Wynona.

'I just fancy a cow like that for my very own!' says Beany Bob. And then he goes all quiet, like he's telling me a secret and says: 'The thing is, squire, I have five magic beans and you look like the sort of person to make good use of them. So I was wondering, no...no it's too much to ask.'

Quick as a flash I worked out that Beany Bob wanted me to swap Wynona for his five magic beans. It sounded like a wonderful deal!

But before I agree I just want to make sure. So it's time for you to help me out again. In your pairs one of you be Beany Bob and the other one be me, Jack. Beany Bob has to persuade Jack to sell Wynona the cow for five magic beans.

Jack, you're not sure if this is a good idea and you have to ask lots of questions...and Beany Bob, you have to use all your selling skills to make the deal. Will you end up doing the swap? Well, it's over to you to find out.

Sit down again with your partner.

Magic beans! I ask you who could resist. 'I'll swap you Wynona for those magic beans, Beany Bob,' I said. And before you could say 'Jack' he says: 'Done, my old salt!' And we do the exchange and I am now the owner of five magic beans. What do you think about that?





I'm sure mother will be pleased. After all - magic beans! Ooh, we're home now so I will just pop inside.

Oh dear, that didn't go well. Mother was a bit cross with me, you see. 'You brainless blunderer,' she said, 'you sold our Wynona for a couple of beans!'

'Five beans' I said! That was when things really kicked off as she chased me around the table, opened the window and threw the beans out...and then she chased me out the door and told me to sleep in the cow-shed.

So that's what I'm going to do. See you in the morning.

That's better, another new day. Oh, my gosh! Look! Those beans have grown into the most amazing beanstalk!

See - it goes up and up and up. Point to it now. Start low...and lift your arm and eyes up, up, up. See it growing right up through the air, through the clouds and through to goodness knows where!

We're going up that beanstalk! Well I mean what's the worst thing that could happen? Apart from falling off, ok that could happen! Or getting stuck at the top, well I'll give you that!

Stand up and face your partner a few steps apart. You'll climb one each side of the beanstalk facing each other and copying each other's movements. So, reach up one arm and leg...now the other...and climb, climb...higher and higher. Keep going...

Look down! Oh, wow! We've come so high already! Hold on tight! Climb, climb, keep going...

Agh! The beanstalk is starting to sway!

We'll just have to keep climbing and hold on extra tight as we do. Climb, climb through the clouds. Swaying a bit more, hold on. Carefully to the very top...

Stop. Wow! We've reached a land in the clouds! Just look at this place. We're standing outside...a palace...but it's so big!

We must be in the Land of the Giants! Quickly - let's dodge through that open door - one step, two steps, three steps, stop.

Oh my golly, jolly, joshings, just look - it's a giant's room! That table is as big as the cow's shed...the chair could fit an elephant...and that cupboard is the size of a house!

'Fee, fi, fo, fum!'

The giant! He's coming! Quickly find your own space to hide and crouch down low... and for goodness sake keep very, very quiet...

Oops, sorry! I seemed to have knocked everything out of the cupboard. Sorry! Shh! Shh! He's sitting down.

'Lay.'

Lay? Lay what? Oh, look - there's a hen on the table. Oh, my jiddering jeepers! It's laid an egg...ooohh...and it's a golden egg!

'Sing.'

There's a harp on the table. Listen! It's playing itself! Well I never, never ever! The lovely music has sent the giant to sleep!

Now's our chance to get out of here!

Let's creep outside again. Keep really quiet because that giant has big ears. In fact - they're giant! Out through the door, as quiet as we can!

Sit down for a rest, right where we are.

Well would you believe it? A singing hen that lay tables the size of...no, wait, that's not right. Let's see...the giant hid when we came in...er...no sorry everyone...we better get this right otherwise mother will never believe me.

So can you help me get the story straight? Please remind me of everything that happened and the order it happened in right from when we arrived at the top of the beanstalk. Could you do that for me? I would be ever so grapefruit, I mean grateful!

Thank you, thank you. I'm so grateful! I've never been so full of grate!

'Fee, fi, fo, fum!'

Oh, no! The giant! He's woken up and come outside. He's sniffing around trying to smell us out. We'd better get away!

Carefully stand up where you are. Don't make any sudden movements. Now creep along quietly, carefully heading for a bush or a tree to hide behind.

'Fee, fi, fo, fum!'

He's seen us! Back to the beanstalk, facing your partner again...one step, two steps, three steps...

'Fee, fi, fo, fum!'

Quickly climb down, one each side of the beanstalk...

Phew! He's not following us. He's too heavy to climb down. Keep going...nearly there...

Now he's throwing golden eggs at us! Lean one way and now the other...

'Fee, fi, fo, fum!'

'Mother, mother! Fetch the axe! Oh, you're there.'

It's no good, *you'll* have to help pick up your chopping axe and swing it up by your shoulder and get ready to chop at the beanstalk!

One, two, three, chop...and again stronger this time. Ready? One, two, three...nearly there. One more super powerful chop! One, two, three! You've done it! Well done all of you!

What's this? One last golden egg...and it's fallen all the way down to earth.

'Mother! We're rich! And all because I sold our cow for five magic beans!'

What a story! We must remember it. Do you think you could act out the whole story with your partner? From selling Wynona and getting the beans and going to the Land of the Giants and everything else that happened?

Well I hope so. Over to you for one last time. Bye good one every. Opps I mean, good bye everyone!