

Week 1 – To write what the giant might say

1. Choose a part of the Jack and the Beanstalk story that includes some speech. – You might want to use the picture below!
2. Read this part of the story aloud and ask your child to put their fingers on their nose when they think a character is talking.
3. Using the picture below, ask your child where they think the speech bubble is. What do they think it shows?
4. Start by drawing a picture of the giant, as your child draws, use this time to talk about what they think the giant might say.
5. Draw the speech bubble next to your child's drawing big enough for them to write inside.
6. Ask your child to write something the giant might say to Jack, or if you want an extra challenge, they could also draw Jack and write something he could say back to the giant! It doesn't have to be the exact words from the story...use your imagination.

Jack ran through the door of the castle, towards the top of the beanstalk.

Fee Fi Fo Fum! I
smell the blood of
an Englishman!

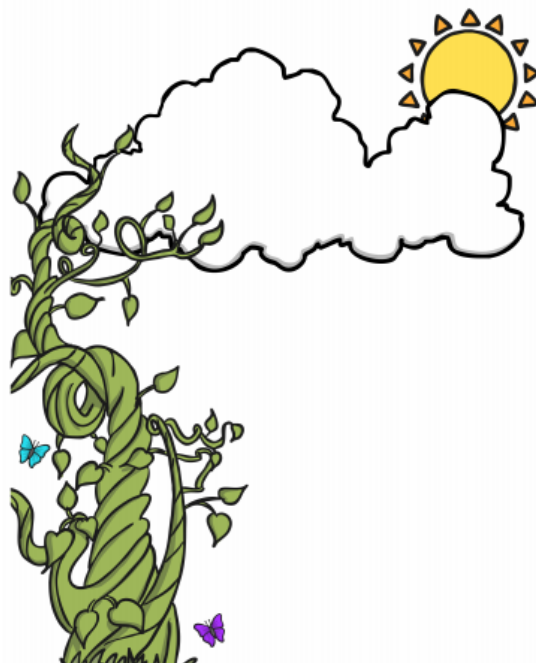
HELP ME!



Week 1 – Imagine you had a magic seed and it grew in your garden. Draw a picture and write about what you would like to find at the top of it.

1. Begin by recalling the story of Jack and the Beanstalk. Encourage your child to talk about what happens to the bean and why.
2. Next, ask your child what they think might be at the top of Jack's Beanstalk – it grew so tall it reached the clouds! What might be at the top?
3. Explain that we are going to write down some of our ideas and carefully sound out the words we want to write.
4. Choose one idea e.g. 'There is a magical rainbow'. Carefully sound out the word as you write it down. Encourage the children to tell you sounds they can hear in the words you are saying and discuss tricky words like 'there'. When you have written the sentence, model reading it by pointing at the letters as you say the word. It's OK if you take the suggestions from the children and write the sentence phonetically, so it might look a bit like this. – There is a majicol rainboa.
5. Let your child draw their picture first to help structure their ideas, then let them have a go at writing about what they have drawn.

Top of the Beanstalk



Week 2 – To describe the troll using labels.

1. Use the picture of the troll below and discuss each of his features. Ask the children to imagine what it would be like to meet the troll. What would he be like? What does he smell like? What sounds can you hear?
2. Ask children to draw their own version of the troll. Ask them to describe its features as they are drawing and colouring. You could discuss the words in the 'word bank' below and see if they can use them in their descriptions!



Grumpy	Kind	Scary
Green	Nasty	Furry
Happy	Angry	Ugly

3. Make sure you have used some interesting describing words in your labels. E.g green smelly feet.

Week 2 – To write a sentence about the troll.

1. Talk about some of the labels that you wrote to describe your troll.
2. Model writing a sentence for your child. Before you write:
 - Ask the children what a sentence always begins with (capital letter)
 - Ask them what we leave between each word (finger space)
 - Ask them what a sentence ends with (full stop).

Some children will not know the structure of a sentence, so don't worry if they don't know! This is a new skill to many. Any attempts at writing need to be praised.

3. Model drawing a troll and then writing your own sentence for your child. Make a mistake like forgetting to leave a finger space and let them correct you. Ask them to suggest the sounds that you need to write. Involve them in the process as much as possible.
4. Complete this task on Purple Mash – My Monster. The children can add the labels to their drawing and have a go at typing a sentence.

My Monster



The troll was big and hairy. He had red wings. |

5.

General Tips in Supporting your Child to Write

Every week we will set two writing tasks. Please make sure that you fit this in around **your** schedule and don't feel pressured to complete it! We understand how challenging home life is at the moment! Here are some general tips to help support your child to write. Writing can be quite daunting for the children (and the grown ups supporting them!) as it is such a complex task. The best advice is to be calm and relaxed and not worry about the mistakes! Children need to build confidence and feel happy to give any writing tasks a go!

- Talk talk talk! Talk about what you are writing and allow your child to discuss their own ideas.
- Have a phase 2 and 3 sound mat to hand so that children can refer to it. It's ok for them to copy sounds if they can't remember what it looks like.
- Tackle each word at a time, supporting the children to break down individual words into sounds.
- It doesn't matter if they spell words wrong, the idea with early writing is that children can 'hear' the sounds in words that they say and write a sound that represents it. For example, they may write 'j-igh-a-n-t' to represent the word 'giant'.
- Praise rather than highlighting their mistakes, at this early stage it is very important to encourage any writing attempts to help build confidence.
- It doesn't matter if your child misses a sound or does not leave spaces between words – this is very normal.
- If they ask for you to write a word for them to copy, this is also OK, but try to encourage them to sound it out themselves first.

Happy Writing!