



Jack and the Beanstalk The Giant's Perspective

NOTE: This lesson can address the following Common Core State Standards:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.3, RL.K.9, RL.1.3, RL.1.9, RL2.3, RL.2.6, RL.3.6, RL.4.3, RL.4.6, RL.5.3 and RL.5.6

Kids enjoy a twist on a familiar story. For this prompt, the students write as if they are the giant. They try to convince the reader that the giant is nice and not mean.

NOW FOR THE LESSON!

1. Tell the storyline: *You're going to write in 1st person as if you are the giant. You're going to try and convince the reader that you are indeed a nice man and not mean.*
2. Have the students brainstorm background information according to the text that you read to the students you're working with:
 - Jack was poor
 - A man with 5 magic beans bought Jack's cow
 - Jack's mother threw the beans out the window
 - A giant beanstalk grew
 - Jack climbed it, saw a castle and went into the castle
 - The woman hid Jack
 - The giant had bags of gold coins and was counting it
 - The giant fell asleep
 - Jack stole the money bag
 - Jack went home and then returned
 - Jack later stole the hen and the harp
3. Have the students brainstorm thoughts that the giant could have had:
 - Jack came to me and entered MY house without permission
 - He HID in MY house
 - Jack stole from me 3 times!
 - I was tired because...
 - I was grumpy because...(describe a bad day that doesn't involve Jack)
 - I was counting my money because I'm saving for (good cause)
 - I actually say, "Fee Fi Fo Fum..." Create a rhyme! Words that rhyme with fum are: gum, thumb, numb, come, some, hum, bum, tum...)
 - I didn't die when I fell from the beanstalk, I just got hurt.
4. Have the students brainstorm kind gestures that the giant could offer
 - Inviting Jack and his mom to dinner
 - Buying a new cow for Jack and his mom
 - Providing another animal, machine or tool that can generate income
 - Hiring Jack and his mom to work for him and his good cause



5. Show the 5 sections to the story:

- Introduction/Main Point
- First of all,
- Secondly,
- Thirdly,
- Conclusion/Kind Gesture

Remember: K-1st Graders are encouraged to write 1 sentence for each section,
2nd Graders 2 sentences, 3rd Graders 3 sentences and so on.

NOW TO WRITE!

Guide the students through the following steps. They are free to use the suggestions or write their own words. Encourage them to refer to the list of thoughts the giant could have had to form their argument.

Introduction/Main Point:

Hello! I am the giant from Jack and the Beanstalk. I just want you to know that I am not mean!

First of all, (state and explain the first reason)...

Second of all, (state and explain the second reason)...

Thirdly, (state and explain the third reason)...

Conclusion

For the conclusion the giant repeats the main point and ends by offering a kind gesture.