

Do you know the famous story of Cinderella? Do you know about Little Red Riding Hood, or the Three Little Pigs? In this book, you will read these famous stories again. But they will be different, and they will be very, very funny!

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ROALD DAHL

A Penguin Readers series of your favourite Roald Dahl characters and stories!

	CEFR level	Story word count	Headwords
1	A1	1,000–2,000	550
2	A1+	3,000–4,000	700
3	A2	5,000–7,000	1,000
4	A2+	8,000–10,000	1,200

Lexile measure 530L

U.K. £7.99 CAN. \$16.99

ISBN 978-0-241-61100-5



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REVOLTING RHYMES



Illustrated by Quentin Blake

ROALD DAHL

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LEVEL

2

This book has been simplified for English Language Learners
by Alberta White
Series Editor: Madeleine Burgess

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ABOUT ROALD DAHL AND QUENTIN BLAKE



Roald Dahl was a children's writer, and many of his stories are very famous across the world. Do you know any Roald Dahl books?



Quentin Blake drew pictures for Roald Dahl's stories. Do you like the pictures in this book? Which is your favourite picture?

About these stories

All the stories in this book are very special. They are very old and famous, and people tell them again and again in many countries. Do you know any of them?

In English, the name for these stories is "fairy tales" or "nursery rhymes". People tell these stories to their children before bed. And sometimes you can watch films of these famous stories on TV or at the cinema.

In these stories, the people (or animals!) are good or bad. In the end, the good people are usually happy, and bad things often happen to the bad people.

Roald Dahl thought about these famous stories, and he wrote them again. He changed them, and he made them funnier and sillier!

Jack and the Beanstalk

MEET . . .



Jack



**Jack's
mother**



The Giant

NEW WORDS



a bean (n.)



a beanstalk (n.)



gold (n.)



smell (v.)

Jack and the Beanstalk

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

What will happen in the story?
Answer the questions.

- 1 Look at the picture on page 8.
Why is Jack smiling? What is in his hand?
- 2 Look at the picture on page 12.
Who is this? Is he good or bad?
- 3 Look at the picture on page 14.
Where is Jack's mother going?

Now let's read Jack and the Beanstalk!



JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

"Find someone to buy this cow," said Jack's mother one day. "You must get £100 or more for her."

"But Mum," answered Jack, "no one wants to pay £100 for our cow. She's very old."

"You must find someone," Jack's mother shouted, angrily. "We're very poor, and we need money."

Jack took the old brown cow away, and he came back later in the day.

"Someone bought the cow, Mum," he said. "I'm a very clever little boy!"

"No, you're not! Where's my money?" his mother asked.

"There is no money," Jack smiled. "I got something better."



Jack held out his hand, and he showed his mother one small **bean**.

His mother's face was now green. "You silly boy!" she shouted. "Now we have no **cow** and no money!"

She took the bean, and she put it outside. Then she shouted at Jack for thirty minutes.

But the little bean was special, and at ten o'clock that night, it **began** to grow. The next morning, it was a very **tall beanstalk**, and you could not see the top of it.

Young Jack said, "Look at the beanstalk, Mum. It's **better** than a silly old cow!"

His mother **answered**, "No, it isn't! I **can't** see any beans for us to eat."

"But look **up** there!" Jack shouted, happily. "Look very high. The top of the beanstalk is all **gold**!"

His mother looked up, and she saw the gold. It looked beautiful in the morning sun.

"Wow!" she shouted. "We're rich! I'm going to buy an expensive new car."

Then Jack's mother looked at him. "Don't stand there!" she said. "Go and get the gold!"

Jack went up the beanstalk quickly. He went up and up, and he did not stop. He was nearly at the top now.



But then he heard a very loud shout.

"FEE

FI

FO

FUM!

I can **smell** an Englishman!"



Jack was frightened. Jack was quick. He went down the beanstalk, and he was on the ground in three seconds.

"Mum!" he said. "There's a giant at the top of the beanstalk!"

"No, there isn't!" his mother answered.

"Yes, there is," Jack told her. "And he could smell me!"

"He could smell you because you're dirty!" his mother said, angrily. "Every night, I say, 'Have a bath, Jack.' But do you wash? No, you don't!"

"But you aren't dirty, Mum, because you wash every day," Jack answered. "You must go up the beanstalk, and you must get the gold."

Jack's mother said, "Yes, I will!" She pulled up her skirt, and she began to go up the beanstalk.

Jack watched, and he listened. He could not see his mother now because she was at the top of the beanstalk. He waited but he could not hear anything. *Will the Giant smell her?* he thought.

Then there was a strange noise. The Giant was eating something loudly!



Then the Giant said, happily, "That was *very* nice. I enjoyed eating her."

The Giant ate my mum! Jack thought.

He looked at the *beanstalk*. *There is gold up there, and I must get it. But I don't want the Giant to smell me. I'll have to take a bath.*



He ran inside the house, and he washed again and again. Now he smelled as beautiful as a flower.

Jack went up the big beanstalk again until he was nearly at the top. He saw the Giant there, but the Giant did not see Jack.

"FEE FI FO FUM!" said the Giant. "Now I can't smell anyone."

Jack smiled, and then he took a lot of gold from the beanstalk. He was a very, very, very rich boy now.

I'm going to have a bath every day! he thought, happily.

Jack and the Beanstalk

WHAT CAN YOU REMEMBER?

Match the pictures to the words.

1



a beanstalk

2



a bean

3



smell

4



gold

Read the sentences and write the correct words.

dirty

~~angry~~

tall

frightened

rich

1 Jack's mother is very angry with Jack.

2 The beanstalk is very _____, and they cannot see the top of it.

3 Jack hears the Giant, and Jack is very _____.

4 The Giant can smell Jack because Jack is _____.

5 Jack takes lots of gold from the beanstalk, and now he is very _____.