

Jack and the Beanstalk

03.10.16 – 21.10.16

Over the past few weeks the children have been learning about the traditional tale Jack and the Beanstalk. To launch our topic we set up a crime scene with giant footprints and breadcrumbs that was surrounded by crime scene tape. The children were really engaged with this idea and made many suggestions as to who our visitor could be. All the children were convinced that a giant had visited the school and that he was hiding. They wanted the giant to come and visit them so some children wrote a letter to the giant asking him to be our friend. A couple of days later the giant responded and commented that he is a friendly giant but actually needs their help. As Jack had stolen his harp the giant asked if the children could create a new harp or another instrument for the giant to have. It was a great start to our topic!

In Literacy we labelled different parts of the beanstalk and castle. The children also creatively explored what might be at the top of the beanstalk instead of a castle. We had some very interesting ideas! Some of the children wrote letters to the giant apologising for Jack stealing the harp and some children created wanted posters for the giant.

During Maths sessions we focussed on counting and recognising numbers to 20. We counted how many beans were in bean pods, made beanstalks and wrote numbers to 20 on the leaves and even solved number problems.

We listened to music and pretended to move as Jack or the giant. The children had to listen very carefully to the changes in the music and instruments.

In RE we focussed on the story of Noah's Ark. The children were able to respond to the story creatively using different types of media. Some children created rainbows; some children made the characters out of play dough and others role-played the story to each other.

This topic has been a huge success and the children have been thoroughly engaged.

In Foundation Stage we have launched our cursive handwriting scheme for the current letters we have been focussing on. We would appreciate your help if you could continue with the handwriting homework and follow the rhymes that belong with each letter.

Grandparent Morning

A huge thank you to all those grandparents and parents who came into school and supported the children in their learning.

The children had a fantastic time! During Grandparents/Parents Morning



Foundation Stage invited all parents, grandparents or other special people into school to explore their learning with the children. We set up opportunities for sewing and weaving.

Some children decided to make flowers, beanstalks related to our Jack and the Beanstalk topic. We set up a classroom with board games and puzzles for children to play with and develop their communication skills. Some of the grandparents were a little competitive!



The children decided they would like to cook chocolate biscuits and another recipe that was related to our topic so we made pizzas and decorated the giants face. In the garden we set up various activities that enabled children to build on their gross motor skills. They chose hockey, bean bag games and catch as well as having the music area where grandparents danced to the music using ribbons and pom poms. In the hall we had an

art and craft area with lots of ideas related to Jack and the Beanstalk. We left out different varieties of beans and asked the children to show us what they could create.

We hope to do an event like this again soon, where children can invite someone into school who is special to them.

Thank you.
Foundation Stage Team

