

**Project FOCUS  
Best Lessons  
FIRST GRADE**

**Title of Lesson:** Jack and the Beanstalk

**Theme:** Life Science

**Unit Number:** 7      **Unit Title:** All About Plants

**Performance Standard(s) Covered (enter code):**

S1L1

S1CS1

**Enduring Standards (objectives of activity):**

**Habits of Mind**

- Asks questions
- Uses numbers to quantify
- Works in a group
- Uses tools to measure and view
- Looks at how parts of things are needed
- Describes and compares using physical attributes
- Observes using senses
- Draws and describes observations

**Content (key terms and topics covered):**

Plant parts, plant growth, measuring with a ruler, chart

**Learning Activity (Description in Steps)**

**Abstract(limit 100 characters):** This activity ties in language arts and science by focusing on fairy tales and growing a plant.

**Details:** Make a chart with each student's name on it to show the growth of the plant on butcher paper. After reviewing parts of plants and reading Jack and the Beanstalk, the children are presented with the opportunity to grow their own beanstalks. Place a piece of paper and a marker on each student's desk. Also place a styrofoam cup filled with about an inch of damp potting soil and a pinto bean on each student's desk. The children will write their names on their cup. Have the children plant the bean, making sure to cover the bean up completely. After everyone finishes, then discuss where the seed should go (in the classroom or outside) and what the seeds need to grow. Also, make sure they make predictions on the plant's growth and once they begin to grow, classify the progress of growth. Also, make sure they make predictions on the plant's growth and once they begin to grow, classify the progress of growth. In the following weeks, have the children chart their progress themselves by measuring with a ruler and recording on the chart. Be sure to include date planted, date sprouted, daily height of plant, etc. If the students have science journals, have them write daily observations. An awards presentation can also be held with certificates for tallest plant, most productive plant, etc. However, everyone should receive a certificate for his or her participation.

**Materials Needed (Type and Quantity):**

**Story or book of Jack and the Beanstalk**

**Construction paper**

**Rulers**

**Butcher paper**

**Markers/crayons**

**Cups**

**Potting soil**

**Bean seeds**

**Science journals (if students have them)**

**Notes and Tips (suggested changes, alternative methods, cautions):**

**Make sure each student washes his or her hands after potting the seed.**

**Sources/References:**

**1) "Jack and the Beanstalk" by Jodie Coulson on the Science Lesson Plans Site: <http://www.col-ed.org/cur/sci/sci121.txt>**

**2)**

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