

THE STORY OF JACK



It's a challenge that seems impossible. How could one young man defeat a terrible ogre? What chance could the hapless Jack ever have of overcoming a giant so huge that no more than his boots can fit on a pantomime stage?

In its original form, the story of *Jack and the Beanstalk* is about a boy and his mother in a hopeless position. They're short of money and the only thing they have of value is their beloved cow. And even she has stopped producing milk. Their poverty leaves them with only one option: Jack must take the cow to market.

If all had gone according to plan, that would have been the end of the tale. Jack would have returned with a bit of cash and they'd have muddled on for a little longer.

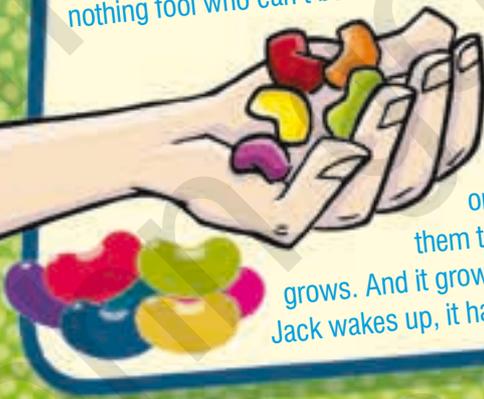
But things don't go according to plan. When Jack returns, he has nothing but a handful of beans to his name. An old man has persuaded him they have magical properties. Believing in miracles, Jack sees the beans like a lottery ticket – a fast-track escape from their life of penury.

Jack's mother, of course, is less easily won over. As she sees it, they are now even worse off than before. Furiously, she tosses the beans through the window and gives Jack what for. The boy is clearly a good-for-nothing fool who can't be trusted. Things are looking desperate.

Turns out, though, the beans were not such a crazy investment after all. While Jack sleeps, sent to bed on an empty stomach, one of them takes root. It grows. And it grows. And it grows some more. By the time Jack wakes up, it has reached the sky.

FEE

FO



FI FUM



Bravely climbing to the top, Jack finds himself in a magical land. Perhaps those beans were a good investment after all. But this is the domain of a bloodthirsty giant, a creature with a taste for human flesh who frequently cries:

**"Fee-fi-fo-fum,
I smell the blood of an Englishman,
Be he alive, or be he dead
I'll have his bones to grind my bread."**

Surely Jack doesn't stand a chance against such an enemy. But, finding unexpected reserves of boldness, he climbs the beanstalk and enters the castle three times. After each visit, he comes away with a more valuable item of the giant's treasures. First he grabs some gold, then he finds a goose that lays golden eggs and, on his final trip, he snatches a golden harp that plays fantastic music by itself.

Naturally, the giant is not happy about this and, on Jack's third attempt, he catches him in the act. It is only after a neck-and-neck chase that the boy manages to flee back to earth where he chops down the beanstalk just moments before the giant would have had his revenge.

The giant plunges to his death and the victorious Jack, who once owned nothing but a handful of beans, gets to live happily ever after with his new-found riches.

Stories about giants have been told for many centuries. We can trace elements of *Jack and the Beanstalk* all the way back to the folktales of Cornwall and even further to the ancient Norse myths. One such tale, *Jack the Giant Killer*, is set in the days of King Arthur and tells of a young man, aided by magical cape, cap, shoes and sword, who does battle with a whole series of giants.

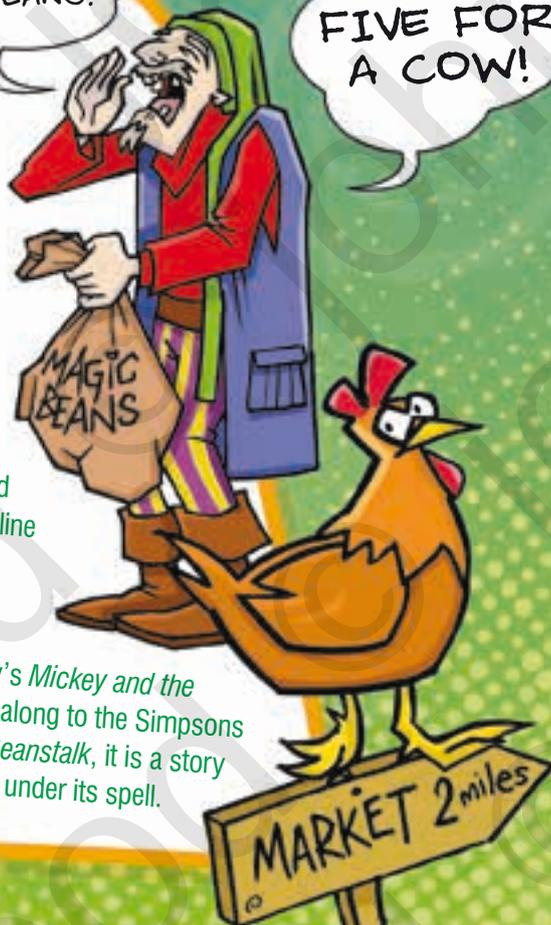
Closer to the version we know today is *The Story of Jack Spriggins and the Enchanted Bean*. In this telling, Jack's adventures include rescuing 10,000 knights and ladies who are being cooked up for the giant's breakfast. That story was published in 1734, but it's most likely much older than that – Shakespeare quoted the line "Fie, foh, and fum/I smell the blood of a British man" in *King Lear* in 1605 and others had used the line before him.

Since then, this classic tale has captured the imaginations of generation upon generation. Whether we lapped up Walt Disney's *Mickey and the Beanstalk*, laughed at *The Goodies and the Beanstalk* or played along to the Simpsons video game *Bart and the Beanstalk*, it is a story that has held us under its spell.

Mark Fisher
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MAGIC BEANS!
MAGIC BEANS!
COME GET YOUR
MAGIC BEANS!

FIVE FOR
A COW!



GIANT TALES

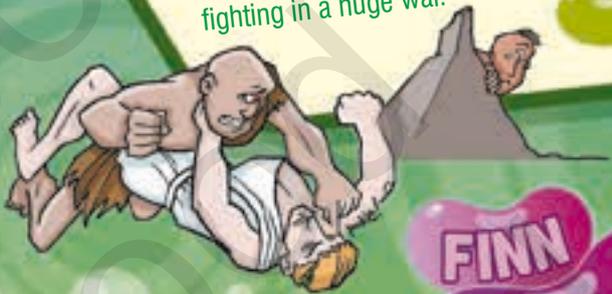
Giants are nothing new: they've always played a part in mankind's storytelling legends. From the ancient Greeks to JK Rowling's Hagrid, these mythical creatures have captivated audiences since... well, since stories began.

Here are some of the most notorious giants who may – or may not – have existed in real life.

CYCLOPES

Ancient Greek myths were chock full of various types of giants but the most famous group were a race called the Cyclopes, a bunch of enormous people who were easily spotted by the fact they had only one eye in the middle of their forehead!

They were apparently around at the same time as the Titans (another race of giants only these guys had two eyes) and the two groups didn't get on terribly well. In fact, they hated each other and ended up fighting in a huge war.



FROST GIANTS

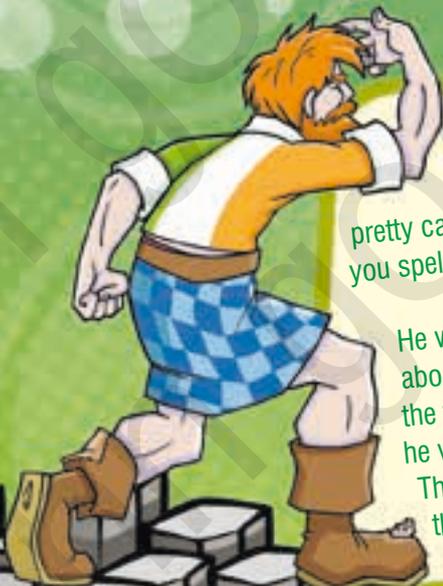
One of the most common types of giant living in the ancient Norse world – that's modern-day Scandinavia, to you and me. You might know them better as trolls.

The frost giants apparently originated from huge icicles and were deadly opposed to some of the Norse gods, such as Thor – which helps explain their appearance as the bad guys in the Marvel movie Thor.

FINN McCool

Sounds cool, doesn't he? The name alone is pretty catchy. Doesn't roll off the tongue in quite the same way when you spell it in its original Gaelic, though – Fionn MacCumhail.

He was a giant in Irish folklore who had countless stories told about him. Among the most famous is the legend that he built the famous rock formation the Giant's Causeway because he wanted to cross to Scotland without getting his feet wet. They also say that he once lobbed a lump of earth out into the Irish Sea... and created the Isle of Man.





THE ABOMINABLE SNOWMAN

...or, to give him his proper Tibetan name, the Yeti. In America he's known as Bigfoot, but wherever he's reported, it's always the same: a giant, ape-like creature walking on his hind legs.

Unfortunately, hard evidence is thin on the ground – unless you count some possibly faked huge footprints and the odd bit of blurred film footage that could, in all honesty, be just a really hairy man going for stroll. But he still captures the imagination of explorers, who regularly launch Yeti hunts in a bid to prove his existence.

THE LOCH NESS MONSTER

Tales of a huge dinosaur surviving into modern times in the chilly, dark depths of Scotland's second largest lake have been around for generations. Scientists with no imagination have ridiculed most sightings as either wishful thinking or deliberate hoaxes, although some (including the BBC) have tried searching for the creature using 21st century methods.

So far, there's been no luck, but who's to say Nessie didn't see them coming and hid herself away from prying cameras and sonar devices?

THE KRAKEN

Although there's been plenty of recorded sightings of big squid measuring up to 15 metres there's long been rumours that 'The Kraken', a truly enormous squid exists somewhere in the depths of the ocean. It's been a bogeyman for seagoing fisherman for centuries, and possibly gave rise to the writing on old maps that warned: "Here be dragons".

Given that we actually only explored 5% of the world's ocean and are discovering strange new creatures every year, the kraken may yet prove to be as real as you and I...

Michael Davies © John Good

UP IN THE

Jack's giant lives in a castle at the top of the beanstalk. But are they the only ones who like to be high up? Oh no, they're not – human beings have a pretty good track record of it as well.

Here are just a few examples of people living the High Life.

Machu Picchu, Peru, and Potosi, Bolivia

An ancient city built in the sky, Machu Picchu is so high up it feels like you're in the clouds. But it's not just shrouded in mist – it's shrouded in mystery too.

Built around 1450, when the Inca empire was at its height across South America, the city is constructed on a mountain ridge 2,430 metres above sea level and was abandoned just a century or so later. Spookily, nobody knows why. It was only discovered 100 years ago by an exploring American and has since become a major tourist attraction.

Mind you, its height pales into insignificance next to that of the highest city in the world, Bolivia's Potosi, which stands a whopping 4,090 metres above sea level. What is it about these South Americans and living high up?

Sitting on poles

Bizarre as it may sound, sitting on top of a pole has a long and respectable tradition among people all over the world.

It originated with the early Christian saint St Simeon the Stylite, who apparently lived on top of a column for 37 years. Again, spookily, nobody's quite sure why, except that he evidently found it a bit of a pain being pestered by his followers.

But what's even more of a mystery is why there was a huge craze for pole-sitting in the USA in the 1920s, sparked by stuntman Alvin "Shipwreck" Kelly. His first effort was a bit feeble, at just 13 hours, but he later went on to manage 49 days.

The modern record is – get this – 439 days, 11 hours and six minutes, but it's still rubbish compared to 37 years.

SKY

Tall buildings

Mankind has always had a fascination for building things high. From the pyramids of Egypt to New York's Empire State Building, architects and designers all over the world have shared the desire to go bigger, taller, more extreme.

Although the Stratosphere Tower in Las Vegas is far from the tallest in the world, it does have a couple of records to its name. For nearly 10 years, it featured the world's highest roller coaster, the High Roller, on top of its observation deck. When it was dismantled in 2005, needing refurbishment, it was replaced by Big Shot, a freefall gravity drop which, at 329 metres, is the world's highest amusement ride.

Natural Highs

The tallest thing on the face of the planet is, of course, Mount Everest. Or is it?

Well, actually there's actually a mountain in the middle of the Pacific Ocean that stands even higher, if you count from its base at the bottom of the sea. But we'll go with the one that's visible, standing 8,848 metres tall. That's quite high enough for us, thank you very much.

Everest was first climbed by Sir Edward Hillary and his Sherpa mountaineering guide Tenzing Norgay in 1953. Since then, more than 5,000 people have done it, including a 13-year-old boy, a 73-year-old woman and a man in a helicopter, although that feels a bit like cheating.

In fact, congestion is reaching ridiculous proportions. On a single day in May 2010, a staggering 169 people reached the summit, while a recent cleaning-up exercise removed more than five tonnes of rubbish from the mountain.

PANTO PUZZLERS

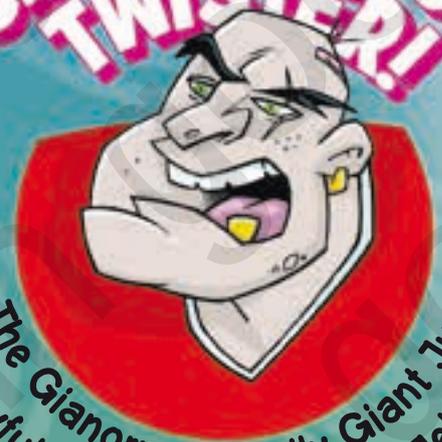
GREETINGS!

Jack likes to say hello to children from all over the world. See if you can help him by working out which greeting on the left matches the language on the right.

- | | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Hola | German |
| Guten Tag | Arabic |
| Konichiwa | Russian |
| Witaj | Japanese |
| Bonjour | Italian |
| Buon Giorno | Hindi |
| Namaste | Spanish |
| Al Salaam A'Alykum | Polish |
| Zdraveite | French |



GIANT TONGUE TWISTER!



The Gianormous Jolly Giant Jumped Joyfully in Jack's Jellybean Jelly

See how quickly you can say this without getting muddled!



WHERE'S MY AXE?

Help Jack find a way through the leaf maze to find his axe.

Start



Finish

DOT TO DOT



PANTOMANIA!

Unscramble the titles to find out which are Jack's favourite pantomimes!



FIRST KISS

Or just an illusion?

The Giant has just married Mrs Giant and he may now kiss the blushing bride. Relax your eyes and stare at the space between Mr and Mrs Giant.

Slowly bring the page towards your face and see them share their first kiss!

P.S. Grab a sick bucket!

Try again if it doesn't work the first time.

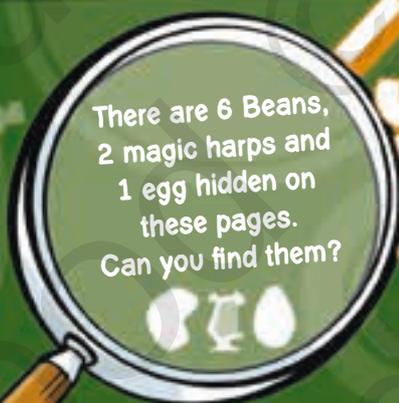


JACK'S CODEBUSTER!

Crack the code and work out the secret message from Jack!

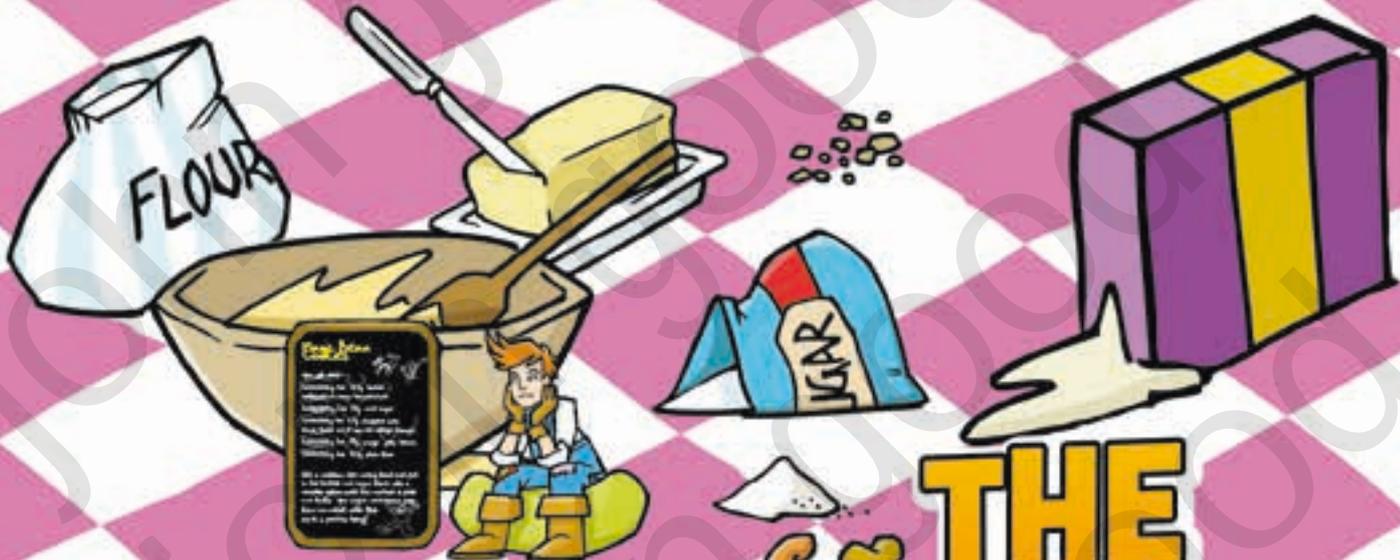
A		J		S	
B		K		T	
C		L		U	
D		M		V	
E		N		W	
F		O		X	
G		P		Y	
H		Q		Z	
I		R			

Secret message:



There are 6 Beans, 2 magic harps and 1 egg hidden on these pages. Can you find them?





THE GIANT'S TABLE

Ask an adult to help you (even if you are a giant!)

Why not try this recipe for magic bean cookies when you get home?

The Giant usually makes massive ones the size of barn doors for himself, but we've adjusted this recipe so it only makes 12 human size ones.

Magic Bean Cookies

You will need :-

- ~~4,000,000~~kg 4oz (125g) butter (softened at room temperature)
- ~~2,000,000~~kg 2oz (50g) caster sugar
- ~~1,000,000~~kg 1oz (25g) chopped nuts (leave these out if you are allergic though!)
- ~~3,000,000~~kg 3oz (75g) magic (jelly) beans
- ~~4,000,000~~kg 4oz (125g) plain flour



Get a medium size mixing bowl and put in the butter and sugar. Beat with a wooden spoon until the mixture is pale and fluffy. (You might need some help from an adult with this as it's pretty tiring!)



Stir in the magic (jelly) beans and nuts. Add the flour and mix it all to form a nice soft dough with a tablespoon, plop dollops onto a greased baking tray or greaseproof paper. Allow six for each tray or sheet.

Bake in a preheated oven at 190°C (375°F) gas mark 5 for approximately 10 minutes until the cookies are golden brown and the magic (jelly) beans have melted. Remove from the oven and cool the baking tray for about 5 minutes before transferring them to a wire rack to cool completely.

As an alternative to nuts, why not try adding white or milk chocolate chips to the mixture.



THE GIANT'S BIG WORDSEARCH



Can you find all these words in the grid below?
They can go forward, backwards or even diagonally.

- COLOSSAL
- LARGE
- GIANT
- GREAT
- JUMBO
- AMPLE
- EPIC
- BIG
- SIZEABLE
- ENORMOUS
- HUGE
- BROAD
- VAST
- MAMMOTH
- MASSIVE



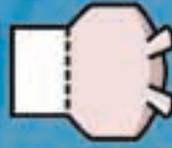
JACK'S LITTLE WORDSEARCH

Now have a go at
Jack's Little Wordsearch.
It's small but just as tough!

- TINY
- LITTLE
- SMALL
- PUNY

COW PAT FLAT SPLAT!

HERE'S ONE!



HOLY
FOLDING
COW!

AND HERE'S
AN UDDER ONE!



Daisy the Cow has been squashed on her way to market. Poor Daisy! She is feeling a bit flat and has lost her Moo-jo! Can you make her moo-bile again?

moo glue here!

moo glue here!

Instructions

1 Cut out this page and glue it onto thin card

2 Cut out around the shape of the cow and the udders

3 Fold along the dotted lines and glue along the flaps marked moo glue here!

4 Cut two vents on each side of the cow

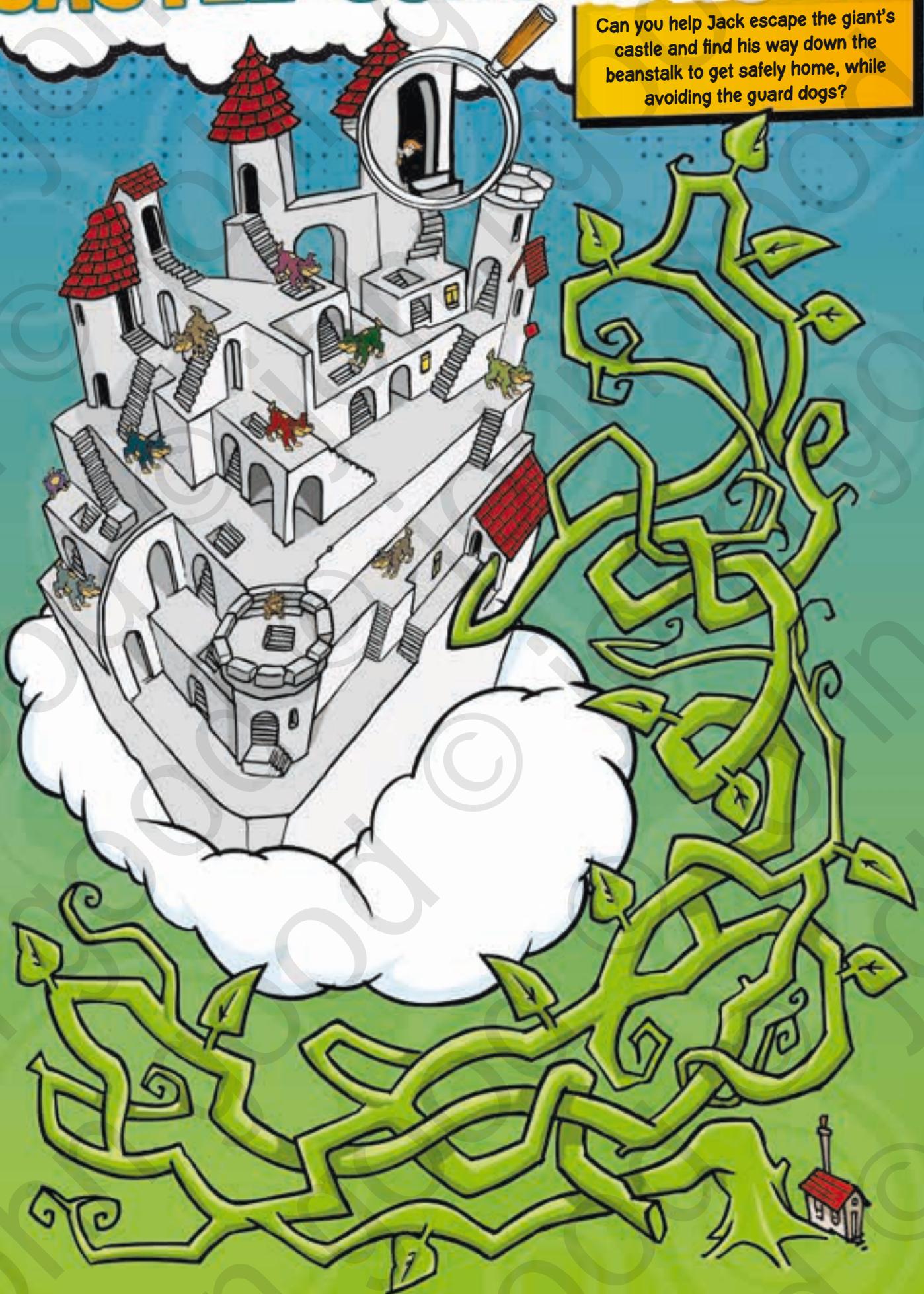
5 mould into shape and slot the udders into the vents

Mooooo!



CASTLE CONUNDRUM

Can you help Jack escape the giant's castle and find his way down the beanstalk to get safely home, while avoiding the guard dogs?



FEE-FI-FO-FUM ARE YOU IN OR HAVE YOU GONE?

Make this funky sign and stick it on your bedroom door to let everyone know if you're in or out!



Badge



Instructions

1 Cut out this page and glue it onto thin card.

2 Cut your door sign, badge and tab along the (colour) dotted lines.

3 Fold the sign in half and very carefully cut along the dotted lines in the middle. (Ask an adult to help you with this)

4 Stick the badge on to the sign. Draw in a picture or add your own photo!

5 Write your name on the door sign and stick it on your door.

Tab

Finished Sign



**DO NOT
ENTER!**

**I AM
IN**

**I AM
OUT**

**PLEASE
KNOCK!**

MARKET MAYHEM

a hat
a moo-bile phone
a bottle of wine
a beach ball
a torch

Oh no, the giant has rampaged through the market looking for his hen and has knocked everything over. Can you find these items?

+ How many cartons of bean juice and golden eggs can you count?

a clock
a pair of rollerskates
a golden harp
an egg timer
a teddybear



FUM FO FI FEE



GET YOUR PENS

AND COLOUR ME





a clock
a pair of rollerskates
a golden harp
an egg timer
a teddybear

MARKET MAYHEM

a hat
moo-bile phone
a bottle of wine
a beach ball
a torch

Oh no, the giant has rampaged through the market looking for his hen and has knocked everything over. Can you find these items?

+

How many cartons of bean juice and golden eggs can you count?



ANSWERS

GREETINGS!



THE GIANT'S BIG WORDSEARCH



WHERE'S MY AXE?



JACK'S LITTLE WORDSEARCH



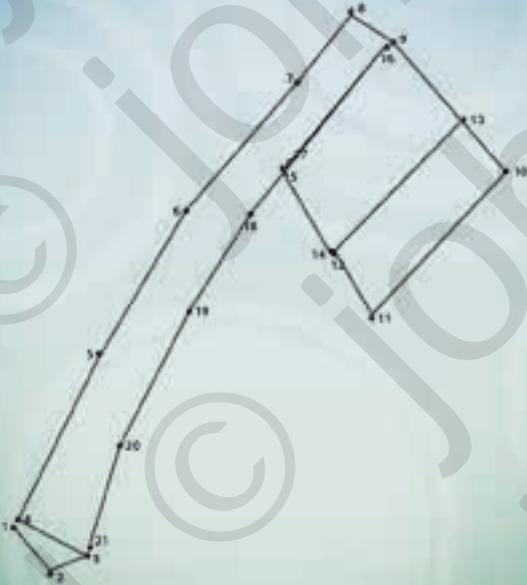
JACK'S CODEBUSTER!

Answer:

HAVE FUN AT THE PANTO

ANSWERS

DOT TO DOT



PANTOMANIA!



CASTLE CONUNDRUM



