

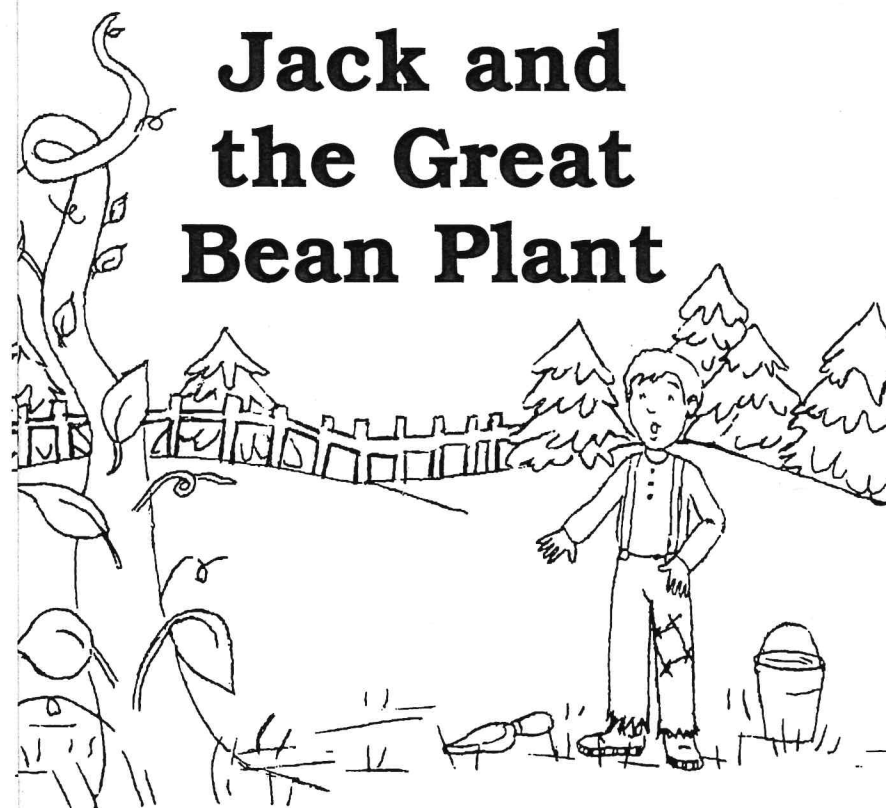
SAXON
Phonics and Spelling
1

Phonetic Concepts Practiced

ea = /ē/ (bean, each)

ea = /ē/ (overhead)

ea = /ā/ (great)



retold by Katie John Sharp
 illustrated by Maggie Byer-Sprinzeles

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Grade 1, Decodable Reader 31
 First used in Lesson 87

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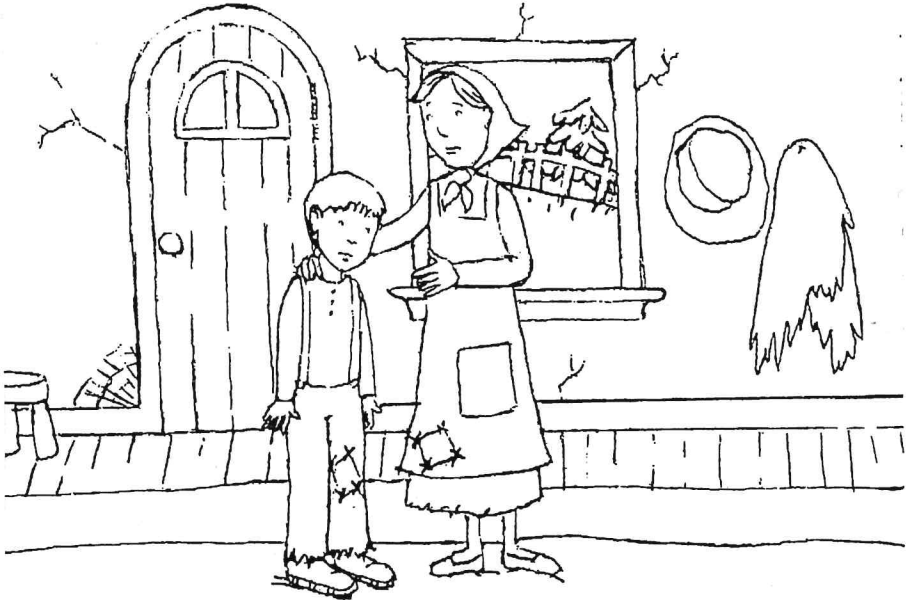
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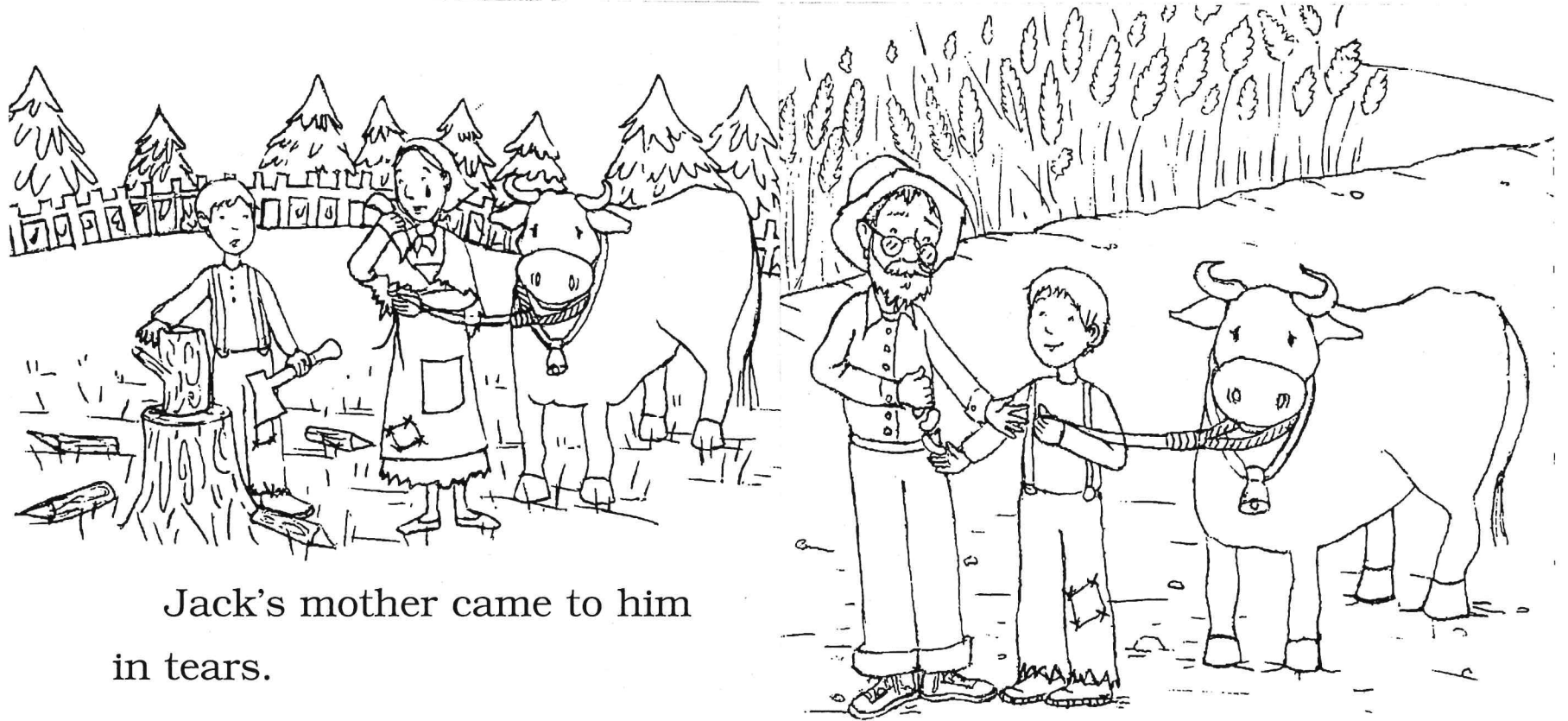
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Jack and his mother had each other, but not much more. A year ago, a great big beast took their things. Did the mean beast rob them clean?



Jack's mother came to him
in tears.

"We have little to eat,"
she said. "Please trade the ox
for food."

A man with a beard bought
the ox. The man gave Jack
three yellow beans.



“That man is a cheat!”
Jack’s mother said.

She tossed each bean over
her head.



Jack looked for each bean.
But there was only a great big
plant. And it was growing, up
to the sky.



With no fear, Jack went up the bean plant. At the top was a great big home.

The big mailbox read:
A mean beast lives here!



Jack took back each thing from the mean beast.

Then the mean beast appeared!



“My ax, please, Mom,”
Jack screamed. “I need to
break the plant!”

The great plant fell, and
the mean beast was left high
overhead.

The End

Understanding the Story

Questions are to be read aloud by a teacher or parent.

1. Who stole all of Jack's and his mother's things?
2. What did Jack get when he sold the ox?
3. Who gave Jack the beans?
4. What did Jack find when he looked for the beans?
5. Where did the bean plant lead?

Answers: 1. Possible answer: the great big mean beast 2. three yellow beans
3. a man with a beard 4. a bean plant 5. to the beast's big home

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