

Generic action bank for story telling

Key Connective	Suggested Action
Once upon a time Long long ago	Open hands like a book.
Early one morning	Hands to one side of head and pretend to wake up.
Who	Finger circle index finger in air.
First	One finger up.
Next	Two fingers pointed to one side.
But	Fingers down.
Because	Hands out open palmed
At that moment	Hands expressively open as if in surprise.
Suddenly	
To his/her/their amazement/astonishment	
Unfortunately	
Luckily	Hands raised open as if thanking.
After/after that	Roll hands over in turning gesture.
So	Roll hands forwards and open as if giving.
Finally	Palm facing audience like a policeman stopping traffic.
In the end/Happily ever after	Bring hands together as if closing book.
Eventually	

Suggested actions specific to Jack and the Beanstalk

Jack	Place flat palm on chest.
Mother	Arms crossed across chest, palms on shoulders.
Farm	Draw outline of imaginary roof shapes.
Cow	Clenched fists on sides of head, index fingers pointing like horns.
Hen/bird	Arms bent at sides of body flapping like wings.
Harp	Mime fingers strumming harp.
Giant/lady giant	Arm reaching high above head indicating height of giant.
Stole/grabbed	Hand reaches out sharply and mimes grabbing object.
Money	Index finger and thumbs make circles indication round shapes of coins.
Strange man	Eyes frown quizzically.
Magic beans	Palm cupped, other hand mimes picking up bean from cupped palm.
Threw	Mime throwing a ball.
Beanstalk	Both arms extended above head, palms together pointing upwards.
Climbed	Mime climbing a rope.
Castle	Draw outline of imaginary battlements.
Fee, fi, fo, fun	Finger pointed, arm bent. Index finger makes four sharp beats.
Hid	Cover eyes with hands.
Asleep	Eyes closed, tilted head resting on hands (as pillow).
Ran	Mime running.
Woke	Stretch arms out above head.
Chopped	One hand chopping on flat palm of other.
Fell	Mime falling to ground.