

Jack and the Beanstalk Activities

Huckle Buckle Beanstalk

You will need to be in a room that has a lot of stuff in it, three or more players, and a small object to hide. It can be anything, but it should be unique, the only one in the room. (For example: don't pick a Lego in a room that has other Legos in it.)

The youngest player is "It" for the first round. The other players must leave the room.

"It" will hide the object somewhere in the room, but it must be visible. Nobody should have to open or move anything in order to see the object, but it should be hard to notice.

Once the object is hidden, "It" invites the other players to come back in the room.

Everyone silently looks around the room for the object—no talking, no hints.

If someone sees the object, they pretend to keep looking around for a few seconds, acting casual. Then they calmly walk to the center of the room, sit down on the floor, and call out, "Huckle Buckle Beanstalk!" This lets everyone know that the object was seen, but the location is still unknown to the other players. Nobody should touch the object.

Continue in the same way until all the players see it and get a chance to sit down and call out "Huckle Buckle Beanstalk!" If the last player is having a hard time finding the object, "It" can give them hints. Even the last player should act casual and not "give it away".

The first player then goes over and picks up the object, to prove they really found it. Now it's that player's turn to be "It". You can keep playing as long as you want! It's really fun to play.

Magic Beans

You will need:

- dry beans (not cooked or canned)
- a clear glass jar or cup
- clear pop (or light-colored, Mountain Dew works o.k.)

Put pop in the glass so that it's around 3 or 4" deep. Drop a spoonful of beans into the pop and say some magic words. (How about Huckle Buckle Beanstalk?) The beans will start to rise and fall, over and over again. It's like magic! How does it work? The bubbles accumulate on the beans until they lift the beans to the surface. When the beans reach the surface, the bubbles pop. Once a bean is no longer covered in gas bubbles, it is more dense than the soda and it sinks back down to the bottom. Once at the bottom, the bean accumulates gas bubbles again until it rises to the surface once more.

