

# Welcome to Kindergarten Parent Night 2011

I am excited to share with you the wonderful world of Kindergarten and give you a preview of some of the exciting things this year holds for you and your child. Here is our agenda for this evening:

Introductions  
Daily Schedule  
Classroom Webpage  
Class Helper/Sharing Bag  
Birthdays  
Book Reports  
Star-of-the-Week  
Word-of-the-Week  
Duke  
Holiday Parties  
Stability Ball Chairs  
Stoplight Behavior Plan  
Yellow Tickets  
Character Counts Bulletin Board  
Parent-Teacher Conferences  
Title One Reading  
Volunteer Program  
The Giving Tree  
Miscellaneous Reminders  
Beginning of School Story

\*\*Just a reminder that there is no school for Kindergarten on Friday, August 26<sup>th</sup>.



My name is Julie Boekhout. I graduated from Galva-Holstein High School in 1991 and from Buena Vista University in 1995. I started teaching at Central Lyon in 1995. In 1997, I married Tim Boekhout and we have 2 children, Brandt and Brecken. We also have two bichons, named Ava and Boomer.



Iona Van Dyke is our classroom Grandma. She has been involved with the Foster Grandparent program for 17 years. She is here every day from 8-12.



Mrs. Gacke is a paraprofessional in our classroom.



Mr. Kruse is the Elementary/Middle School Principal.



Mr. Ackerman is the High School Principal and Superintendent.

Keep up to date with the happenings in our classroom through our school webpage at [www.centrallyon.org](http://www.centrallyon.org)

\*Click on the “classroom pages” tab, then the “Elem-lower” tab, and finally on “Kdgn – Mrs. Boekhout”.

## A Day in the Life of a Central Lyon Kindergartner in Mrs. Boekhout's Classroom

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 8:20 - 8:45   | Calendar Activities   |
| 8:45 - 9:00   | Handwriting   |
| 9:00 - 9:40   | Reading   |
| 9:34 – 9:58   | CCC with <a href="#">Mrs. Wessels</a> on Wednesday  |
| 9:40 - 10:00  | Math  |
| 10:00 - 10:15 | Recess  |
| 10:17 – 10:41 | CCC with <a href="#">Mrs. Wessels</a> on Wednesday  |
| 10:20 - 11:10 | Activity A.M....Centers on Monday, Thursday, and Friday<br>Library with <a href="#">Mrs. DeJongh</a> on Tuesday from 10:30 - 11:00  |
| 11:15 - 11:45 | Lunch   |
| 11:50 – 12:30 | Art with <a href="#">Mrs. Hoppe</a> on Wednesday  |
| 12:00 - 12:15 | Recess...M, T, Th, F  |
| 12:20 - 12:50 | Rest time...M-Th<br>*Fun Friday Activity  |
| 12:50 - 1:20  | Activity P.M....Science, Health, or Social Studies unit   |
| 1:20 - 1:50   | Freeplay  |
| 2:00 - 2:15   | Recess  |
| 2:25 - 2:55   | Special.....TAG with <a href="#">Mr. Van Berkum</a> (1st semester)<br>Guidance with <a href="#">Mr. Lorenzen</a> (2nd semester)<br>Music with <a href="#">Mrs. Johnson</a><br>P.E. with <a href="#">Coach Deutsch</a> |
| 2:55 - 3:10   | Milk and Snack  |
| 3:10 - 3:15   | Dismissal   |

The children in my class will rotate turns being our Class Helper for the day. I believe this is a great opportunity to teach them how to be a leader in school and in life. These are some of the responsibilities they will be given:

Calendar Leader

\*lead us through our activities

Volunteer Greeter

\*make our volunteer feel welcome

Lunch table Supervisor

\*assist friends as needed

Rest time DJ

\*choose music

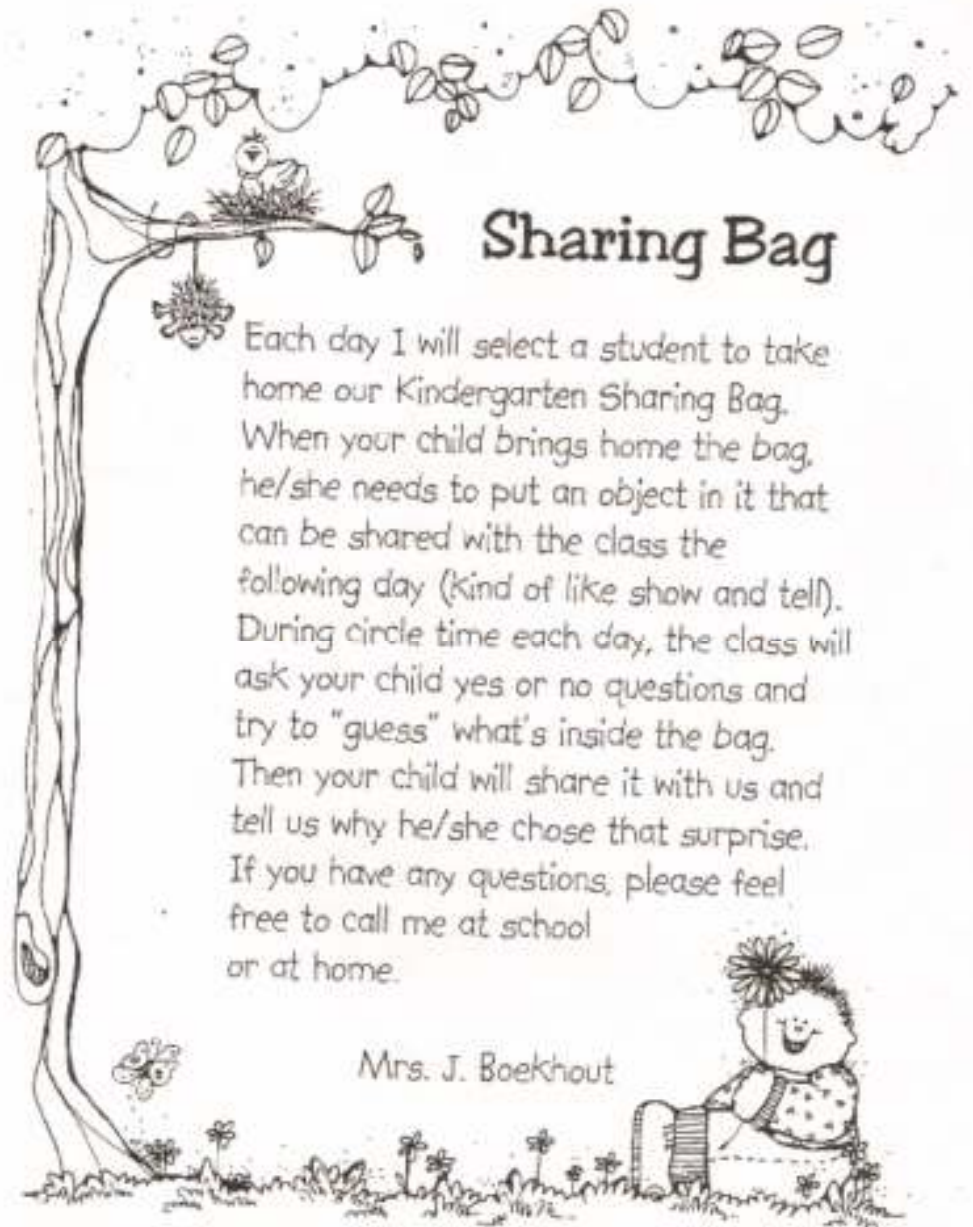
Rest time Electrician

\*turn on the lights

Freeplay Clean-up Inspector

\*make sure room and toys are tidy

You will know when it's your child's turn to be our Class Helper when they bring home the Sharing Bag the night before. Be sure and ask them all about their day of leadership!



## Sharing Bag

Each day I will select a student to take home our Kindergarten Sharing Bag. When your child brings home the bag, he/she needs to put an object in it that can be shared with the class the following day (kind of like show and tell). During circle time each day, the class will ask your child yes or no questions and try to "guess" what's inside the bag. Then your child will share it with us and tell us why he/she chose that surprise. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at school or at home.

Mrs. J. Boekhout

We love to celebrate birthdays here at school.  
Be sure and ask your child all of the fun things  
we did to celebrate their special day!



Hip! Hip! Hooray!  
It's almost your Birthday!  
We will be celebrating your birthday  
here at school on  
\_\_\_\_\_. If you would  
like to bring a special  
snack, please bring  
\_\_\_\_\_.

\*\*I celebrate summer birthdays in May unless you let me know otherwise.\*\*



Dear Parents,

I am excited to tell you that my class will be participating in the Reading Rodeo program sponsored by Pizza Ranch. This is an incentive based program that motivates children to read. The goal for Kindergarten is for each student to complete one book report each month. While reading the book of your choice to your child, please remember to ask them lots of questions and keep them involved in the story. Then I would like each child to write as much of the report as possible, draw the picture with a pencil and color it. Encourage your child to add lots of details to their picture and practice retelling the story to you. After your child shares their book report with the class each month, they will receive a free mini-pizza coupon. Thank you for reading with your child.

Mrs. Boekhout

September Book Report

\*\*\*Please return to school by the end of this month!

**Name**\_\_\_\_\_ **Date**\_\_\_\_\_

**Book Title**\_\_\_\_\_

**Author**\_\_\_\_\_



**Draw a picture about your book.**

# Star of the Week

It's time for your child to be our Star of the Week.

Please fill out the enclosed paper with your child and return it along with 5-10 photographs your child would like to display on our bulletin board.

The pictures can be of your child, family, friends, or anything your child would like to tell his/her classmates about. Your child may also bring a favorite toy, book, or collection to show our class.

Also, if anyone in your family would like to come and read a story during your child's week of "stardom", please contact me to set up a time (5-10 minutes). I know this will be a very special week for them. Thanks for your help.

Mrs. Boekhout





# Star of the Week



My name is \_\_\_\_\_.

I am \_\_\_\_\_ years old. I like the color \_\_\_\_\_.

I have \_\_\_\_\_ sisters and \_\_\_\_\_ brothers.

My favorite animal is a \_\_\_\_\_.

My favorite place is \_\_\_\_\_.

I really want to learn \_\_\_\_\_.

When I grow up, I want to be a \_\_\_\_\_.

The best thing about me is \_\_\_\_\_.

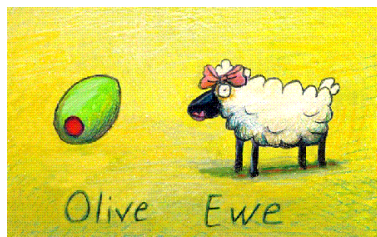
**\*\*Every other week I will honor a "Teacher of the Week" so that the children become familiar with other staff members as well.\*\***

# WORD-OF-THE-WEEK

Your child has been chosen to do the Word-of-the-Week. The word is inside this envelope. Please explore this word together with your child so he/she may explain it to his/her classmates. Your child may do this by finding a picture, drawing a picture, or bringing the actual object to school. Please return this to school by Monday or Tuesday. If you have any questions you may contact me at school.

Thanks for your help.

Mrs. Boekhout



Author  
Illustrator  
Orchard  
Dairy  
Athlete  
Autumn  
Exit  
Harvest  
Nocturnal  
Dictionary  
Election  
Vehicle  
Cornucopia  
Feast  
Atlas  
Wreath  
Holly  
Dozen  
Blizzard  
Thermometer  
Tuxedo  
Island  
Mammal  
Scuba  
Stethoscope  
Floss  
Constitution  
Congress  
Magnetic  
Ireland  
Occupation  
Career  
Kaleidoscope  
Jupiter  
Astronomer  
Constellations  
Migrate



Dear Parents,

I would like to introduce someone new to our room this year. His name is Duke and he is a German Shorthair Pointer. He is good at hunting and loves children.

He will be traveling home with each of your children for 2 nights. I can assure you that he is fully housetrained and very low maintenance.

While he is visiting your home, please write a short note in his Diary about his adventures. Keep it very simple and encourage your child to use their imagination with retelling events while you write what they say. An example might be, "Duke rode the bus home with me. He ate a slice of pizza with us for supper. He snores when he sleeps. I like Duke." Your child may then sign their name at the end. We will read all about his outing on the morning he returns.

Please remember to only keep Duke for 2 nights. Each child is very anxious for their turn! If he goes home on Friday, though, please return him on Monday.

He needs to be returned inside the camouflage backpack, along with his Diary and the 2 children's books about dogs. He loves listening to stories before he goes to sleep!

If he gets homesick (or you have any questions), please feel free to contact me. Thanks for having Duke in your home. Please treat him like family and take good care of him.

Warmest Regards,  
Mrs. Boekhout



# Holiday Parties:

-- Fall Party (Halloween)...This year I would like the children to dress-up as a children's storybook character. If your child could bring the corresponding book or you could create a label for your child to wear stating the book their character is from, that would be helpful. Keep it simple, be creative, and have fun planning with your child.

ex. Google "[homemade storybook costumes](#)"

-- Christmas

-- Valentine's Day

\*PTC will send out information in Sept. for parents to volunteer/donate for these parties.

# Stability Ball Chairs

[www.wittfitt.com](http://www.wittfitt.com)

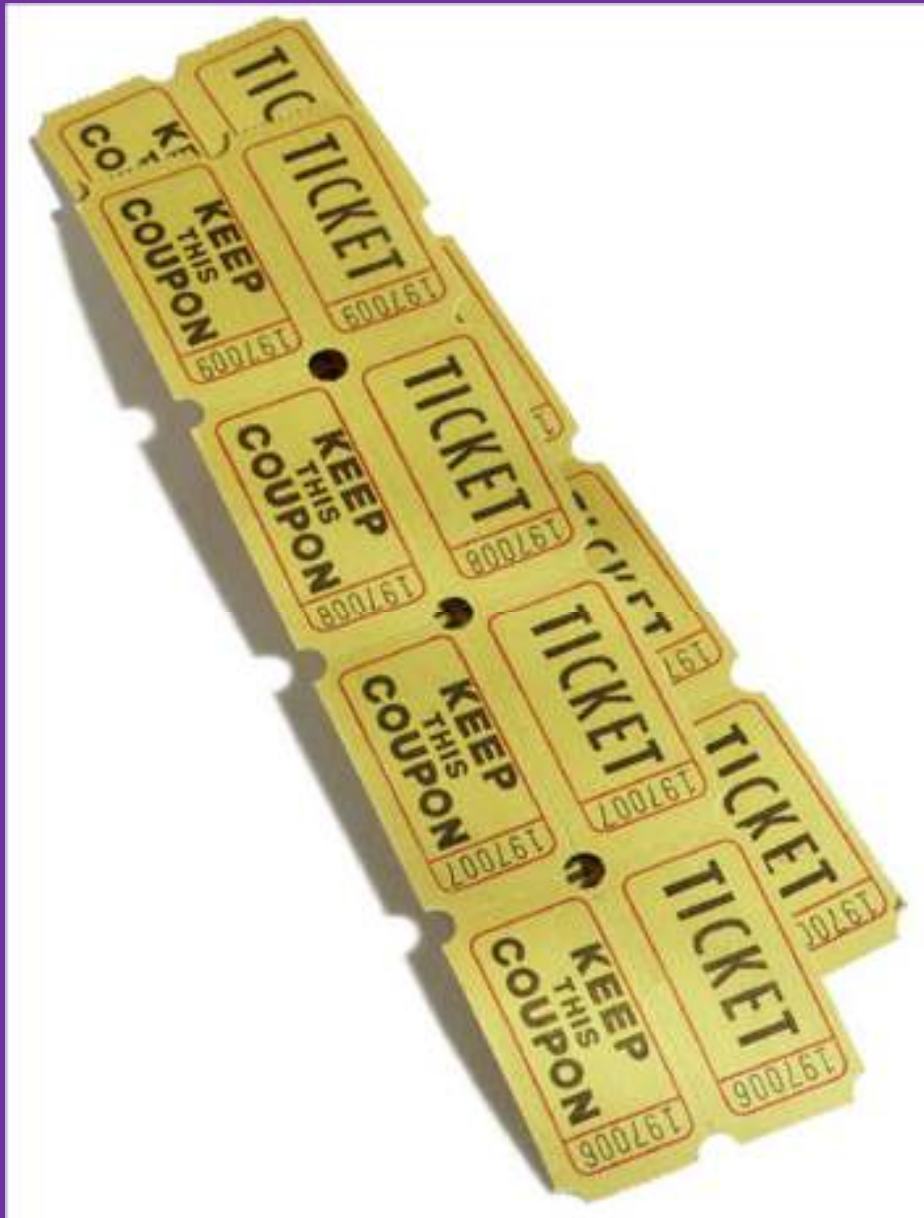


## Benefits:

- Assists in improving posture
- Enhances attention and concentration
- Improves learning through movement
- Incorporates wellness into the school day
- Promotes “active sitting”- with little to no disturbance
- Improves blood flow to all parts of the body, especially the brain
- Strengthens core (postural) & back muscle groups
- Improves balance and coordination
- Adjusts for customized fit to the individual



Everyone starts out on **GREEN** each day. If they are not following a classroom rule or being a good listener, they will be asked to change their magnet to **YELLOW** – which is just a friendly reminder. If they are asked to change their magnet again in the same day, they move it to **BLUE** – which equals a 5 minute heads-down at their desk during Freeplay. If they are asked to change their magnet again in the same day, they move it to **RED** – which equals a 15 minute heads-down at their desk during Freeplay. Consistently changing their magnet each day will more than likely initiate communication from school to home. Each day the children record their light color in their Calendar Binder, which gets sent home at the end of the month for you to review with your child.



## YELLOW TICKETS

A child may receive a yellow ticket for misbehavior outside of the classroom. For example, the bathroom, lunchroom, hallway, recess, etc. Occasional exceptions for receiving a yellow ticket in the classroom would involve a significant misbehavior. Students may receive yellow tickets from any staff member. For each yellow ticket received the child stands in a supervised area for 5 minutes on the playground. In the event a child is consistently receiving yellow tickets, the child's parents will be notified by the classroom teacher. My students also record their yellow tickets received in their Calendar binder, which goes home at the end of each month.



We love to “catch” children displaying good character! This year our theme is “Hands Down Best Character Around!” Each month we focus on a different character trait and look for these behaviors in all students. A child who is “caught” will receive a sticker and their name on the Character Counts bulletin board describing their great behavior. At the end of the month, one boy and one girl from each class who received their name on the board for that month will receive a fruit roll-up.

# Parent-Teacher Conferences

## \*10-minute Kindergarten Conferences

The purpose of these conferences is to review the first few weeks of school, share testing results, and continue communication between school and home.

-- Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 – 7:30

-- Please sign-up for a time before you leave tonight.

## \*15-minute Parent-Teacher Conferences

The purpose of these conferences is to review 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter report cards, testing, and continue communication between school and home.

-- Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 – 8:30

-- Monday, March 12<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 – 8:30

-- We schedule and coordinate dates and times for all siblings PreK - 8.

# Title One Reading

Title I is a federally funded supplemental program that Central Lyon offers to help children gain the confidence they need to help them succeed in the classroom. It serves as an early intervention program hoping that our numbers will decrease in the upper grades.

Students will be identified in the fall based on a teacher's checklist of alphabet letters and sounds. After test scores are compiled, classroom teachers and Title I teachers conference to discuss results. Teacher recommendation based on documentation and observation, help us determine which eligible students will receive Title I services. If your child is identified for reading help, you will be notified at the fall conference in November by the classroom teacher.



Mrs. Van Wyhe

Mrs. Schram

# "Why Can't I Skip My Twenty Minutes of Reading Tonight?"

Let's figure it out---mathematically!

Student A reads 20 minutes five nights of every week;  
Student B reads only 4 minutes a night...or not at all!

Step 1: Multiply minutes a night x 5 times each week:  
Student A reads 20 min. x 5 nights = 100 minutes/week  
Student B reads 4 min. x 5 nights = 20 minutes/week

Step 2: Multiply minutes a week x 4 weeks each month:  
Student A reads 400 minutes a month.  
Student B reads 80 minutes a month.

Step 3: Multiply minutes a month x 9 months/school year:  
Student A reads 3600 minutes in a school year.  
Student B reads 720 minutes in a school year.

Student A practices reading the equivalent of 10 whole school days in a year.  
Student B gets the equivalent of only 2 school days of reading practice.

By the end of 6th grade if Student A and Student B maintain the same reading habits:  
Student A will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days.  
Student B will have read the equivalent of only 12 school days.

Some questions to ponder:

Which student would you expect to read better?  
Which student would you expect to know more?  
Which student would you expect to write better?  
Which student would you expect to have better vocabulary?  
Which student would you expect to be more successful in school?

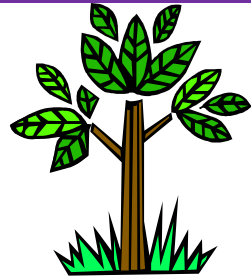
# Kindergarten Volunteer Program

**\*\*My Centers are on Monday, Thursday, and Friday from 10:20 - 11:10.**

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Phone</u> | <u>Email</u> | <u>Your Child's Name</u> | <u>Days You Can Volunteer</u> |
|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|

**\*\*I will be scheduling my own volunteers again this year and will be contacting people through email to coordinate dates. I will then post the volunteer calendars on my webpage.\*\***

If you would like to volunteer in our classroom and did not get a chance to sign-up at our Kindergarten Night, please email me at [jboekhou@central-lyon.k12.ia.us](mailto:jboekhou@central-lyon.k12.ia.us) or call me at school, 472-4041. We would love to have you help!



## The Giving Tree

This Giving Tree belongs to Mrs. Boekhout and Mrs. Schrick. Whenever we need an item for an activity in our classrooms, we will write our request on the tree. We will try to plan ahead and also write the date the item is needed to allow you plenty of time to purchase it. If you choose to take a note off the tree, when your child brings the item to school, he/she will get to put an apple in their teacher's basket with their name and the gift they gave. Much like the story, "The Giving Tree" by Shel Silverstein, we believe this is an excellent way for the children to experience the joys of giving. We would like to see this idea replace the teacher gifts that are sometimes given at holidays. We feel this is a much more beneficial way for parents to give to benefit the entire class throughout the year. We will update the tree as often as needed, but most certainly during Parent/Teacher conferences. Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity.



# Miscellaneous Reminders

\*Breakfast is served in the Elem. Gym from 7:50 – 8:10 each morning. If your child chooses to eat breakfast here, encourage them to get in line right away to allow themselves enough time to eat.

\*Book Fair/Hot Lunch Week is October 3 - 7. There will be a day designated for you to eat with your Kindergartner and attend the Book Fair in the Elem. Library.

\*Please be sure to send a note or call the office by 2:30 if there is a change in your child's afterschool plans.

\*If your child arrives late or needs to leave early, you must sign them in/out through the Elem. Office.

\*All visitors/volunteers must sign in and out at the Elem. Office.

\*If your child needs to be administered medicine at school, be sure to send it in the original bottle with very specific information. It will be administered in the Elem. Office.

\*Throughout the year we collect special papers/photos from you and those will all be returned at the end of the year.

# Thoughts at the Bottom of the Beanstalk

Once upon a time there was a little boy named Jack who was about to climb his very first beanstalk. He had a fresh haircut and a brand new backpack. Even though his friends in the neighborhood had climbed this same beanstalk almost everyday last year, this was Jack's first day and he was a little nervous. So was his mother. Early in the morning she brought him to the foot of the beanstalk. She talked encouragingly to Jack about all the fun he would have that day and how nice his giant would be. She reassured him that she would be back to pick him up at the end of the day.

For a moment they stood together, silently holding hands, gazing up at the beanstalk. To Jack it seemed much bigger than it had when his mother had pointed it out on the way to the store last week. His mother thought it looked big, too. She swallowed. Maybe she should have held Jack out a year....

Jack's mother straightened his shirt one last time, patted his shoulder and smiled down at him. She promised to stay and wave while he started climbing. Jack didn't say a word. He walked forward, grabbed a low-growing stem and slowly pulled himself up to the first leaf. He balanced there for a moment and then climbed more eagerly to the second leaf, then to the third and soon he vanished into a high tangle of leaves and stems with never a backward glance at his mother.

She stood alone at the bottom of the beanstalk, gazing up at the spot where Jack had disappeared. There was no rustle, no movement, no sound to indicate that he was anywhere inside. "Sometimes," she thought, "it's harder to be the one who waves good-bye than it is to be the one who climbs the beanstalk." She wondered how Jack would do. Would he miss her? How would he behave? Did his giant understand that little boys sometimes acted silly when they felt unsure? She fought the urge to spring up the stalk after Jack and maybe duck behind a bean to take a peek at how he was doing. "I'd better not. What if he saw me?"

She knew Jack was really old enough to handle this on his own. She reminded herself that, after all this was thought to be an excellent beanstalk and that everyone said his giant was not only kind but had outstanding qualifications. "It's not so much that I'm worried about him," she thought, rubbing the back of her neck. "It's just that he's growing up and I'm going to miss him."

Jack's mother turned to leave. "Jack's going to have lots of bigger beanstalks to climb in his life," she told herself. "Today's the day he starts practicing for them...and today's the day I start practicing something too: cheering him on and waving good-bye."

-author unknown