

Little Jack

Once upon a time,
there was a boy called Jack
who lived in a fishing village.

Early one morning
his mother said,
"Take this basket of food
to your grandma for tea."
Into the basket,
she put two shiny mackerel,
a crab and a beautiful clam shell.

Jack set off.
He walked and he walked and he walked,
until he came to a bridge.
There he met a cat -
a lean cat, a mean cat.
"I'm hungry," said the cat. "What have you got in your basket?"
"I've got - not one, but two shiny mackerel and a crab,"
said Jack but he kept the shell hidden.
"I'll have one mackerel," said the cat
and she ate it all up.

Next, Jack walked and he walked and he walked,
until he came to a post office.
There he met a dog -
a thin dog, a slim dog.
"I'm hungry," said the dog. "What have you got in your basket?"
"I've got - one shiny mackerel and a crab,"

said Jack but he kept the shell hidden.
"I'll have the mackerel," said the dog
and he ate it all up.

Next, Jack walked and he walked and he walked,
until he came to a corner shop.
There he met a pixie - a naughty pixie.
"I'm hungry," said the pixie. "What have you got in your basket?"
"I've got a crab," said Jack
but he kept the shell hidden.
"I'll have it," said the pixie,
and off he ran.

Next Jack walked and he walked and he walked,
until he came to grandma's house.
"I'm hungry," said grandma.
"What have you got in your basket?"
She opened the basket
and found nothing
but a beautiful clam shell.
Jack held it to her ear.
She listened and she listened and she listened
but all she could hear
was the beautiful sound of the sea.

Luckily,
she had jam
and bread for tea.