Anansi and the Pot of Beans

Characters

Narrator
Anansi, spider
Sabah, wife

Dalia, child
Hashim, husband

Narrator: Anansi is a crafty spider who is always playing tricks to get what he wants. One evening, Sabah and Hashim invited Anansi to dinner at their home. Anansi was sooo excited because he knew Sabah made the best beans in the whole world. Anansi loved beans!

Sabah: (greeting Anansi) It’s wonderful you could join us tonight for dinner, Anansi. We’re so happy to see you!

Dalia: Come in, Anansi. Dinner is ready. Mama made a giant roast, yams, and rice. You’re probably very hungry, right?

Hashim: Yes, come in and have a seat, Anansi. There’s plenty of food.

Anansi: Oh, thank you. I see a pot of beans on the stove. Will we be having beans tonight? (snickers to the side)

Narrator: Anansi snickered because, well, of course, he wanted beans more than roast, yams, or rice. In fact, he could eat the whole pot of beans if they’d let him! After all, that is the reason he came to dinner. But Sabah was saving her pot of beans for the winter.
Hashim: We are saving those beans for the winter, Anansi, but I’m sure you will enjoy tonight’s meal. Sabah made it with love.

Anansi: *(aside to audience)* I don’t want roast, yams, or rice! I want beans! I have to have them! I’m sure they won’t even notice if I just get a taste of those beans. *(excusing himself and walking into the kitchen)*

Narrator: When no one was looking, Anansi reached into the pot and tasted the beans. They were delicious! He couldn’t resist, so he quickly scooped up all the beans into his hat and returned to the table.

Anansi: *(wearing a hat with a look of pain)* This is a delicious meal, Sabah.

Sabah: Let me serve you some more yams. Would you like some more roast?

Narrator: The hot beans underneath Anansi’s hat were burning his head!

Anansi: *(in pain)* No thank you! I think I’ll be leaving now! I’m already full.

Dalia: But you just sat down. You can’t leave! You have to finish your food. Perhaps you can stay a little longer.

Hashim: You’re right, Dalia. Anansi, it’s very rude to leave in the middle of dinner. Is something wrong?

Anansi: No everything is great, but I, I, I’ve got to run! It’s been such a lovely dinner.

Narrator: Anansi sprinted for the door. By now, the beans were beginning to drip from his hat.
Hashim: *(walking over to the kitchen and announcing)* Hey, the beans are all gone! Where did they go? *(running back in with an empty pot)* Look! Theft, Sabah! Our guest has stolen our beans in his hat!

Dalia: Now we won’t have any beans for the winter!

Narrator: Anansi was gone. But our stubborn trickster learned a lesson that day. Taking something without asking will never end well. The hot beans burned the hair off Anansi’s head, and that’s why spiders are bald today!

Make It Your Own
Work together to continue the script. Write about what the family does after Anansi runs out of the house.

Narrator: The family couldn’t believe what Anansi did.

Dalia: He probably ________________________________.

Hashim: That’s the strangest ________________________________.

Sabah: Yes ________________________________.

Performance Tip
With your group, work together to make props, such as the pot of beans and Anansi’s hat. Can you think of other props for *Anansi and the Pot of Beans*?
Lights, Camera, Action!

Read with Fluency: Phrasing
Look carefully at the punctuation for clues about which words go together and where to pause as you read.

Take a Bow

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Always</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
<th>Not Yet</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Everyone could hear me.</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. I read smoothly, clearly, and at the right volume.</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. I didn’t read too slowly or too quickly. My pace was just right.</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. I read with feeling. My character sounded natural.</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. What did you like best about the script? What would you change?</td>
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