

## Chapter 11

## Jack Sprout Meets Rapidfire Rabbit

“You haven't been looking too happy lately, Jack Sprout. What's the matter?” asked Redtail. “You sure look funny running around waving that big stick every day.”

“You know my problem,” I answered. “You know everything that goes on around here.”

“That's right; I do know everything that goes on in Beaver Creek Meadow and I know what's happening to your lettuce.”

“I have to figure this out by myself,” I said. “Grandma Elderberry said everyone would help me get my farm started, but then I'd have to do the work myself. That's just what I'm going to do. I'll figure out this lettuce problem sooner or later.”

“Looks like later to me,” said Redtail. “You're going about it all wrong.”

“What do you mean?” I asked.

“You're just sitting here on your porch looking at your problem from only one angle. To solve a problem, you have to look at it from several different angles.”

“What does that mean?”

“Remember when you went to see Fred Beaver and learned how to fix a broken dam? From Sawdust Miller you learned about tree roots. You went seed-picking with Barley and Iris and learned about power from Pierre Le Tru. You went up Westside Creek and down Big River with Captain Berry and sat on the mountain top with High Mountain Harry. You even looked down the hole where Early Worm lives.”

“That's right; I've done all of those things,” I said.

“Well, that's looking at life from different angles. To solve your lettuce problem, you're going to have to look at it from a different angle.”