

## Chapter 2

## Jack Sprout Meets Fred Beaver

“Oh, I came by to get some trees for the lumber I need to build my new farmhouse,” I said.

“Good. Cutting down trees and turning them into logs for lumber is what I do best,” said Fred. “I’ll be glad to do it since you helped me save my dam. I’ll ask Sawdust Miller where I can get some large, sturdy Silver Oak trees. We don’t cut down any trees without asking him first. They’ll make you a strong, beautiful house that’ll last forever.”

“When you pick up your logs, you can take them to Sawdust Miller's Sawmill. He’s a dusty ol’ woodchuck who’s built low to the ground. While not much to look at, he’s very important. He’s one of the many caretakers of our woods and forests. His sawmill is in the East Woods. He’ll turn your logs into beautiful, straight lumber.”

“That sounds great!” I said.

It was starting to get dark, so I thanked Fred and said good-bye. I headed home to my leaf and grass bed in the East Woods. On my way back I was feeling really good inside. It’s the kind of feeling you get when you’ve helped a neighbor and made a new friend.