Abraham arranged for Isaac to marry Rebekah. As soon as Isaac saw her he knew she was the one for him. He married her and was very happy.

But, Rebekah couldn’t have children. Isaac learned from his father’s mistakes and he prayed. He prayed for 20 years for her and finally she became pregnant. As the baby grew Rebekah thought, “This can’t be just one baby.”

God said to her, “Two babies grow inside you. They will become two nations. One will be stronger and the older will serve the younger.”

When the babies were born the oldest came out all hairy and red, and he was called Esau. His brother came out holding Esau’s heel and was called Jacob.

The boys grew up and became very different. Esau grew up and became a mighty hunter. He brought home many animals that Isaac loved to eat. Jacob grew up to be a quiet man. He loved to hang around the tents and his mom loved him.
One day as Jacob was cooking stew Esau came in starving.

“Give me that stew or I’ll die,” Esau said dropping to the floor.

Jacob smiled a wicked grin, “Only if you sell me the birthright.”

Esau groaned in hunger, “What good is it to me if I die of starvation?”

“Promise me,” Jacob said, and Esau did. So Jacob gave him a bowl of stew and some bread.
More years passed and Isaac was very old and could not see well.

He called in Esau, his older son and said, “My death is near, now go out into the woods and hunt some game. Make me some of the stew I love and then I will bless you.”

Esau got up and readied himself to make the best meal ever. Rebekah heard all of this and went to Jacob.
“Your father is planning to bless Esau. Now go and bring me two goats and I will make the stew your father wants. Then you take it to him and he’ll bless you.”

“But Mom, Esau is hairy all over and I am smooth. Dad will know it’s me and curse me.”

“If he does let it fall on me,” she answered.

So he did what his Mom told him to do.

Then Rebekah cooked up the stew and took the skins and tied them on Jacob and told him to put on Esau’s clothes.
Jacob took the food into Isaac, “Dad I brought the soup.”

“Who is it?” Isaac asked.

“I’m Esau, Dad,” Jacob said. “Eat the food and bless me.”

“How did you do this so fast?” he asked.

“God blessed me,” Jacob lied.

“Come closer so I can feel you,” Isaac said. Jacob did and Isaac felt the goat fur and said. “You sounded like Jacob, but you feel like Esau. Give me the food.”

Jacob did and Isaac happily ate away. Finally he put the bowl down and motioned for Jacob to kneel.

“May God increase your wealth. Let people serve you and your brother serve you. Curse those who curse you, and bless those who bless you.” After this Jacob left and Isaac rested.
Esau got back from hunting and happily prepared the stew. He brought in the stew calling out, “Here’s your stew Dad!”

“What!? Who brought me soup earlier?” They both realized Jacob had tricked them.

“Dad! Dad! Bless me too. Is there nothing left for me?” Esau collapsed on the side of the bed crying. “He’s stolen everything. What do I have left? Can you bless me?”

“I gave it all to him. He will lord over you. You will live by the sword and you will serve your brother, but you will rebel.”
Esau left and started plotting how he would kill his brother. Again Rebekah overheard and went to Jacob.

“I will arrange for you to leave because Esau plans to kill you.” So Rebekah convinced Isaac to send Jacob away to find a wife.
Questions

Younger Kids
1. How did Isaac react when Rebekah couldn’t have kids?
2. What did God promise Rebekah about her kids?
3. Is it right to choose favorites?
4. What did Jacob do wrong in this story?

Middle Kids
1. What did Abraham do when Sarah couldn’t have a baby? Read Genesis 16:2. What did Isaac do when Rebekah couldn’t have a baby? Read Genesis 25:21.
2. What did God tell Rebekah? Read Genesis 25:23. Did Isaac know this? Do you think she told him?
3. How are Jacob and Esau different? How are you different from your brother or sister? If you do not have a brother or sister, how are you different from your parents?
4. Did Jacob trick Esau into selling his birthright? Read Genesis 25:30-33.

**Older Guys**

1. Read Genesis 25:21. What have you been waiting for? Are you praying?
5. Is Isaac doing the right thing in Genesis 27:1-4?
6. Is Rebekah following Isaac’s leading?
8. Read Genesis 27:27-29. What do you see in the blessing?
9. This is what Isaac intended to happen to Jacob. What other consequences are there? Read Genesis 27:41-46.
Activities

1. Sensory bag- Isaac believed it was Esau based on touch. Try touching things blindfolded to guess what they are.

2. Jacob and Esau are opposites. Esau is hairy and Jacob is smooth. Esau loves to hunt and Jacob loves to sit at home. Take turns thinking of opposites.

Online


3. many games and ideas- [http://www.biblewise.com/character/isaac_jacob/isaac_jacob.htm](http://www.biblewise.com/character/isaac_jacob/isaac_jacob.htm)