

# The Story of the Three Billy Goats Gruff

**Once upon a time there were three billy goats.**

One day the three Billy Goats Gruff set off to find a field of tasty grass.

On the way to the field there was a bridge over a river. Under the bridge lived a Troll. The first and smallest Billy Goats Gruff came to cross the bridge.

**'Trip-trap, trip-trap, trip-trap,'** went the goat's hooves on the bridge.

"Who's that trip-trapping over my bridge?" roared the Troll.

"It's me, the first Billy Goat Gruff. I want to eat the tasty grass in the field."

"I'm coming to gobble you up!" roared the Troll.

"Oh no, please don't! I am much too small.

Wait until the second Billy Goat comes.

He is much bigger."

"Very well," said the Troll and he let the smallest Billy Goat pass.

**'Trip-trap, trip-trap, trip-trap,'** went the second goat's hooves on the bridge.

"Who's that trip-trapping over my bridge?" roared the Troll.

"It's me, the second Billy Goat Gruff. I want to eat the tasty grass in the field."

"I'm coming to gobble you up!" roared the Troll.

"Oh no, please don't! I am not as big as the third Billy Goat Gruff. He is much bigger than me!"

"Very well," said the Troll and he let the medium-sized Billy Goat pass.

**'TRIP-TRAP, TRIP-TRAP, TRIP-TRAP,'** went the goat's hooves on the bridge but much louder than before.

"Who's that trip-trapping over my bridge?" roared the Troll.

"It's me, the third and biggest Billy Goat Gruff."

"I'm coming to gobble you up!" roared the Troll.

"Well come along, I'm ready for you," said the biggest Billy Goat Gruff.

The Troll began to run towards him, but the biggest Billy Goat put down his horns and tossed the Troll straight off the bridge. SPLASH! The Troll landed in the river below.

The biggest Billy Goat crossed the bridge to his brothers. They happily ate as much delicious green grass as they wanted.



## Learning Activities

Read the story together a few times. Your child may pick out the repetitive phrases and predict what may happen next. You may want to use different voices for the characters. The smallest goat could have a teeny, tiny voice and the Troll could have a deep, growly voice.

## Creating

You may want to act the story out. Perhaps you could make some goat and Troll masks from old cereal boxes, paper plates or paper. You could even make your own little Billy Goat puppets from lollypop sticks or sock puppets. What do you think the characters will look like? Would the Troll be very tall? You could draw around your child on a large piece of paper to make a giant figure shape.

## Maths

This story has lots of mathematical language. Talk to your child about the different sized goats; small, medium and large. The Troll might be gigantic. Try to find other words for large; huge, immense, massive, etc. You could build your own bridge from cushions, boxes, Lego or blocks. Use positional language such as over, under, beneath and on top. Try to find other words for large, e.g. huge, immense, massive etc.

## Language

This is a wonderful story to learn about sounds. Could you trip-trap around your home? Think about the different sounds. Can you trip-trap quietly like the smallest Billy Goat or loudly like the biggest Billy Goat? You might think about different sounds in your home. What can you hear when you listen carefully? You might be able to hear the ping of a microwave. Can you hear the fridge? Perhaps you could record the sounds around you?

