

The Troll Under The Bridge

The Billy goats tricked the troll!

Story idea 1

How might you cross the bridge?

How might you trick the troll?

It might make a good story.

- Where was the bridge?
- What was it like?
- Why did you want to cross the bridge?
- Where were you going?
- Did you know that a troll lived under the bridge?
- What did the troll look like?
- What did he say to you?
- What did you say back?
- How did you manage to trick the troll?
- What happened to the troll?



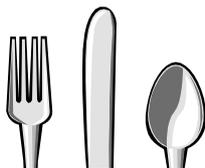
There is an old story about a troll who lived under a bridge. He used to try to gobble up anyone who went over the bridge.

One day, three Billy goats wanted to cross the bridge to get to the fresh green grass on the other side.

The youngest went first. He told the troll to wait for his bigger brother because the troll would have more to eat that way.

The second goat did the same. He got across safely as well.

Then the biggest strongest goat tossed the troll into the air and made the bridge safe for them all to cross.



Story idea 2

Pretend you are the friendly troll

- What is your name?
- What do you look like?
- Where do you live?
- What do you like to do?
- Have you any problems?
- What would you like to happen?

Have you any stories to tell about being a troll?

They might be funny stories or scary stories or even sad stories

I wonder how the troll might have told the story.

Maybe you could tell the story from the troll's point of view.

Maybe the troll wasn't trying to gobble up anybody.

Maybe he was just trying to be friendly





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Author _____

Scribe _____

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Introduction

This is a story inspiration with a broad appeal and has proved very popular. Most children have come across the story of the "Three Billy-goats Gruff". This Story Inspiration offers plenty of opportunity for interaction and role-play.

Preparation

Print off the sheet of troll pictures.

If you can lay your hands on any troll dolls that would be fun but it is certainly not essential.

A copy of the folk tale three Billy-goats Gruff if you need it.

Hello, Authors and Scribes

Have any of you ever had one of those troll dolls with the big noses and fluffy hair? They are ugly but also cute.

There are lots of trolls in stories. They are not usually very cute. They are usually huge, strong, dangerous, and like to try to gobble everything up, including people if they get the chance.

If you saw Lord of the Rings, you will have seen lots of trolls. They were quite ugly. If you have read "The Hobbit", there are big trolls in that too. They get turned into stone when it gets light.

The thing about trolls is that, although they are big and dangerous, they are very stupid. In stories, they are easily tricked.

Do you know the story of the three Billy-goats Gruff?

You could tell the story with the children if you like. Encourage children to role play the troll or the Billy goats. You could have the goats discussing the food situation or you could interview the troll about how he had been attacked by vicious goats. You could even have a troll kitchen scene or cooking programme.

The three goats cleverly tricked the troll. This is what usually happens to trolls in stories.

But, I wonder, if you could talk to the troll, would he tell the story a different way?

Maybe he wasn't trying to hurt the Billy goats at all. Maybe he was just trying to warn them that the bridge needed mending or that the grass on the other side of the bridge wasn't as good as it looked.

There are usually several ways of telling a story depending on your point of view.

Have you got good ideas for stories, Authors?

Talk about them with your Scribes.



Trolls are made up but this is what some people think they should look like.

