A brave Billy Goat learns to protect his brothers.

The Three Billy Goats Gruff

A traditional tale
Three Billy Goats Gruff

Once upon a time, there were three Billy Goats Gruff. They were called billies because they were boy goats and gruff because they were. They spent their days nibbling grass and other plants.

One day, the Little Billy Goat Gruff said, “I’m hungry.”

The Middle-size Billy Goat said, “We’ve eaten all the grass in this field.”

So Big Billy Goat Gruff said, “Then let's go up to the top of the hill where the grass is long and green.” They set off, trip-trap, trip-trap along the winding path.

He butted the troll off the bridge and into the river. He watched the troll wash down the stream.

He then trip-trapped over the bridge and up the hill to meet his brothers where they sang together again, eating the luscious grass:

“We're on the hill where the grass is green and long,
We're on the hill, that's why we sing this song.”

And that was the end of the troll.
As they trotted they sang a song:

“We're going to the hill where the grass is long and green,
We're going to the hill, it's the best we've ever seen,
We're going to the hill where the grass is long and green,
We're going to the hill, that's why we sing this song”.

They were soon at a bridge across a wide river.
They knew that under the bridge lived a troll. A big, bad, greedy troll...

But they weren't scared. They were tough Billy Goats Gruff!

Once again the troll agreed, and the Middle-size Billy Goat trip-trapped across the bridge to join his little brother eating the luscious grass.

Finally, the Big Billy Goat Gruff set off across the bridge, trip-trap, trip-trap.

"I've been waiting for you and I'm going to eat you up!" roared the troll, jumping up onto the bridge.

But as the troll ran towards the goat, Big Billy Goat lowered his horns and charged at the troll.
Little Billy Goat Gruff set off across the bridge, trip-trap, trip-trap.

Underneath the bridge, the troll called, “Who's that trip-trapping across my bridge?”

“It's only me, Little Billy Goat Gruff. I'm going to the hill where the grass is long and green,” the Little Billy Goat Gruff replied.

“Oh, no you're not,” said the troll. “I'm going to gobble you up!”

“Oh, no you're not,” said the troll. “I'm going to gobble you up!”

“You wouldn't want to eat me! I'm only small, hardly two mouthfuls,” said the Middle-size Billy Goat Gruff. “My brother's coming along soon. He's much bigger and fatter than me. Why don't you wait and eat him?”
“You wouldn't want to eat me! I'm only small, hardly even a mouthful,” said the Little Billy Goat Gruff.

“My brother’s coming along soon. He's much bigger and fatter than me. Why don't you wait and eat him?”

And the troll agreed.

So the Little Billy Goat trip-trapped across the bridge and up the hill where the grass was long and green and he started to feast on the luscious grass.

Next, the Middle-size Billy Goat Gruff set off across the bridge, trip-trap, trip trap.

Underneath the bridge, the troll called, “Who's that trip-trapping across my bridge?”

“It's only me, Middle-size Billy Goat Gruff. I'm going to the hill where the grass is long and green,” the Middle-size Billy Goat Gruff replied.
Read the story together and talk about it. You could ask questions beginning with...

- What do you think the goats thought when they saw the Troll?
- Why was the smallest Billy Goat so brave when he faced the Troll?

You could ask questions about how the characters in the story are feeling...

- How did the Big Billy Goat feel when he was walking to the bridge alone to face the troll?
- Why do you think he felt like that?

Tell me a joke!

- Why is it hard to carry on a conversation with a goat?
- They are always butting in.
- What did the goat say when he got some bad news?
- You have goat to be kidding me.
- How do you stop a goat from charging?
- Take away his money.
- Do you know any more jokes?
- Can you make up your own?
Talk about...
In the story, there are 3 Billy Goat brothers. A Little Billy Goat, a Middle-size Billy Goat and a Big Billy Goat.

Have a look at different members of your family and friends and talk about how they are different in both size and personality.

Remember, everyone is different and that is amazing!
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Talk about...
Story sequence cards

Cut out these cards and use them to help you tell the story. You may need to use some of the cards more than once!

Can you shuffle them and then put them in the right order?

Can you change the order to make a silly story?
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Sequence

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You could use these blank cards to draw your own versions of the story!

Is there something you think should have been included?

Do you want to add another character?
In the story, there are 3 Billy Goats—a Little Billy Goat, a Middle-size Billy Goat and a Big Billy Goat.

**Small, Medium and Large**

Try and collect different objects that are all different sizes and sort them out into the smaller ones, medium sized ones and larger ones.

You could use objects from around the house or look for sticks and leaves of different sizes in the local park.

**Stuck in the Grass**

(Stuck in the mud)

You need 3 people or more to play this game and a big open space to play it in. It is a perfect game to play in the park!

One person is on and they are the ‘Troll’. They have to chase the people that are not ‘on’ (who are the goats) and tag them.

When they have tagged another ‘goat’ who was not on, that person is ‘stuck in the grass’. They stand with legs and arms out and they cannot move.

The only way to release them is if another person who is not stuck goes under the ‘goat’s’ arms to free them.
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Play out!

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In this game, players take turns to act out doing something as if they were either a goat, a troll or a human.

**Goat, Troll or Human?**

Take turns to be the guesser. The guesser’s job is to guess whether the actor is pretending to be a goat, a troll or a human.

You could turn back to the story to see how the troll and goats act in the story to help you work out how to act as if you are the characters!

**Balance on the ‘bridge’**

Use different sized items and see which are easier to balance on! Will it be a small bridge, a medium sized bridge or a large bridge?

Try balancing along:
- A scarf
- A rug
- A skipping rope

How long can you balance on the bridges for? Time each other to see how long you can balance for!

What was the easiest object to balance on? Why do you think it was easier than the others?

You can play this game anywhere! Find different objects to make a ‘bridge’ out of.
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Play out!

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In the story, the goats travel a long way for some grass—even over the obstacle of the bridge and the troll! Why not make your own obstacle course?

To make an obstacle course:

- You can use objects you have around the home like boxes, balls, steps, rolled up socks, blankets—anything you choose!
- Set them out one after the other in a track shape.
- Practice going round the obstacles on the course in different ways.
- You could even time each other to see who can complete the course the quickest!

Go for a walk in the park to collect leaves and twigs. Can you make a bridge out of them?

Talk together about what you are doing. What might a goat do with twigs and leaves? What about a troll? What other animals might use them?
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Make it!

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