

# THE THREE BILLY GOATS GRUFF

Once there were three billy goats and Gruff was their last name. They were brothers. There was Small Billy Goat Gruff, Medium Billy Goat Gruff and Large Billy Goat Gruff.

Now it was spring time and the three Billy Goats Gruff wanted to go up to the meadow to eat the tender new spring grass so they would grow big and fat. However, there was a large stream that they would need to cross in order to get to the meadow. There was only one way to cross the stream and that was by a bridge which was guarded by a mean ugly Troll. The Troll was of such a temper that he did not allow anyone to cross his bridge.

One sunny morning the three Billy Goats Gruff sat off towards the meadow. The Small Billy Goat Gruff was in a hurry to taste the tender new grass so he was the first to come to the bridge.

"Trip, trap, trip, trap," went his hooves as he started across the bridge. All of a sudden out popped the mean ugly Troll.

"Who is walking on my bridge?" he demanded to know.

"It is I, Billy Goat Gruff," replied the Small Billy Goat.

"Ah ha!" shouted the Troll. "No one is allowed on my bridge. Now I am going to eat you!"

"Oh, no! Please do not eat me," pleaded the Small Billy Goat Gruff. "My older brother will be coming along shortly. He is much larger than I am. He will make a much better meal."

Upon hearing this the greedy Troll thought about how much more food the larger Billy Goat would be.

"I will let you pass and wait for your brother," agreed the Troll. So the Small Billy Goat Gruff crossed the bridge and headed to the meadow.

A short time later the Medium Billy Goat Gruff reached the bridge.

"Trip, trap, trip, trap," went his hooves as he started across the bridge. All of a sudden out popped the mean ugly Troll.

"Who is walking on my bridge?" he demanded to know.

"It is I, Billy Goat Gruff," replied the Medium Billy Goat.

"Ah ha!" shouted the Troll. "No one is allowed on my bridge. Now I am going to eat you!"

"Oh, no! Please do not eat me," pleaded the Medium Billy Goat Gruff. "My older brother will be coming along shortly. He is much larger than I am. He will make a much better meal."

Upon hearing that there was yet a larger Billy Goat, the greedy Troll thought he would wait for the bigger meal.

"I will let you pass and wait for your brother," agreed the Troll. So the Medium Billy Goat Gruff crossed the bridge and hurried on to the meadow.

By and by the Large Billy Goat Gruff reached the bridge.

"Trip, trap, trip, trap," went his hooves as he started across the bridge. All of a sudden out popped the mean ugly Troll.

"Who is walking on my bridge?" he demanded to know.

"It is I, Billy Goat Gruff," replied the Large Billy Goat.

"Ah ha!" shouted the Troll. "No one is allowed on my bridge. Now I am going to eat you!"

"Oh, no you won't!" replied the Large Billy Goat Gruff. He lowered his head with his large and powerful horns and charged at the Troll. The mean ugly Troll fell off of the bridge and into the stream. He was shouting and hollering as the water carried him far far away.

The Large Billy Goat Gruff crossed the bridge and went up to the meadow to join his brothers. They ate the tender spring grass and all of the Billy Goats Gruff grew large and fat. Never again did anyone see the mean ugly Troll.

*The End*