

The three Billy Goats Gruff

Once upon a time there were three Billy Goats Gruff. They were called billies because they were boys, gruff because they were tough and goats because they were goats.

One day the little Billy Goat Gruff said "I'm hungry." The middle-size Billy Goat said, "Me too." And Big Billy Goat Gruff said, "Then let's go up to the top of the hill where the grass is long and green." So they set off, *trip-trot, trip-trot* along the path. And as they trotted they sang.

*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 were not frightened because they were all tough billies.

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.'*

"Oh, no you're not," said the Troll. "I'm going to eat you up."

"You wouldn't want to eat me, I'm small, hardly a mouthful," said the Little Billy Goat. "Why don't you wait for my brother? He's much bigger and fatter than me. Why don't you wait and eat him?" And the troll agreed.

And 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 eat.

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

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

..."I'm going to eat you up!" roared the Troll jumping up onto the bridge. But as the Troll ran towards the goat, the Big Billy Goat lowered his horns and charged. He butted the Troll off the bridge and into the river. He then trip-trapped over the bridge and up the hill to meet his brothers where they sang -

*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.