

The Three Billy Goats Gruff...A Musical Challenge



- Start by reminding yourself of the traditional story of The Three Billy Goats Gruff. Follow this link to find a version of the story.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kTOKbABj3RU>
- Now try singing this song which is sung to the tune of 'Here We Go Round The Mulberry Bush'. You can find a recording of it on the school website to help you to learn it.

Three Billy Goats Gruff lived by the stream,
By the stream, by the stream,
Over the way the grass was green,
But a troll was guarding the bridge.



The little goat went to munch the grass,
Munch the grass, munch the grass,
The troll didn't want to let him pass,
He said 'I'll have you for tea!'



Don't eat me I'm skin and bone,
Skin and bone, skin and bone,
But my big brother is still home,
And he is fatter than me.



The middle goat went to munch the grass,
Munch the grass, munch the grass,
The troll didn't want to let him pass,
He said 'I'll have you for tea!'



Don't eat me I'm skin and bone,
Skin and bone,
Skin and bone,
But my big brother is still home,
And he is fatter than me.



The big goat went to munch the grass,
Munch the grass,
Munch the grass,
And when the troll wouldn't let him pass,
He threw him up in the air!



Three Billy Goats Gruff live by the stream,
By the stream, by the stream,
They're living where the grass is green,
And no one's guarding the bridge.



- You could try making some puppets to act out the story whilst you are singing it.



- Now think about what kind of sounds the three billy goats would make as they trip-trapped over the bridge. Which would make the loudest sound? Which would make the quietest sound? How loud would the medium-sized billy goat be? Listen to a piece of music on YouTube called 'In The Hall Of The Mountain King' by Grieg. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BLZI-hhbXDI> What do you notice about this piece of music? Is it loud or quiet? Does it stay the same all the time?
- Can you find sound-makers around your house or outside that you could use for the three billy goats? Make sure you check with a grown-up first that you can use them! Sound-makers are anything that makes a sound but is not breakable. Try saucepans, spoons, old boxes, buckets, spades. You could make some shaking instruments by putting rice in to a container with a lid.
- Think about creating three different sounds for the three billy goats with different 'dynamics'...that means how loud or quiet they are. Think about making different music for the grumpy old troll who lives under the bridge.
- Now try performing your story combining your voice singing the story and your instruments to make it come alive!



