

Children love the story of the 'The three Billy Goats Gruff find out why the Troll is angry!',

well, they will love this new version too. In this story the Troll is just trying to help everyone understand about Corona safety rules. But when people don't listen or follow rules, the Troll becomes angry, cranky and loud.

The story not only helps children learn about Corona safety rules but also helps adults understand the role they play in ensuring that their children follow all rules and respect the people who implement those rules and not argue or fight with them. Enjoy the story along with your child and stay safe from Corona...we owe this to our children.

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By Dr. Swati Popat Vats

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Author : Dr. Swati Popat Vats Illustrated by : Purvi. M. Once upon a time there were three Billy goats, they loved to prance around and eat grass, like all goats do.

The grass near their home was not very tasty but the grass across the bridge was lush and looked inviting.



Big Billy Goat suggested, "Lets go and eat the grass across the bridge."

Middle Billy Goat's mouth started watering at the thought of chewing the lush green grass.

But Little Billy Goat reminded them, "How will we go there? There is a Troll under the bridge and he is mean and ugly."

Mother Billy Goat heard this and asked, "Why do you call him ugly? No one is ugly or beautiful. He is always worried about everyone's safety and his face has now become one big frown because of his constant worrying.

Go talk to him and I am sure he will listen to reason, don't forget to wear your masks."



Yes, it was Covid all around and masks were a must. The three Billy goats were excited that their mother had given them the permission to go and eat the green grass. They quickly galloped to the bridge and climbed on and started to trip-trop, trip-trop across.

They reached the middle of the bridge and were happy that the Troll was nowhere to be seen. Troll quietly approached them from behind but the goats were able to detect him because goats have a field of vision of 320 degree–340 degree with only a small blind spot behind them and a binocular vision of 20 degree–60 degree. This means they can detect movement behind them without moving their heads.

"Who is trip-tropping on my bridge?"



"Hrummph!", "Where do you think you are going?", bellowed Troll in his loudest voice.

The three Billy goats froze and their teeth started to chatter in fear. Troll came in front of them and he was wearing a mask, "Where is your mask?" he thundered.

The three Billy goats realised that they had forgotten to wear their masks! "Go back right now, and wear your masks", Troll shouted and menacingly towered over them.





The three Billy goats hurried home. Mother Goat found them whimpering in fear and asked them what had happened.

The three Billy goats started talking together and described to their mother how the mean and ugly Troll shouted at them.

"Well", said Mother Billy Goat, "he is right, isn't he? Why were you out without your masks? Now wear your masks and go again and I am sure the Troll will let you pass."

The three Billy goats washed their hands, wore their masks, took a deep breath and started walking towards the bridge again.



This time Troll was waiting for them and immediately stopped them before they could trip-trop across the bridge.

"Hrummph!", said the Troll, "Who is trip-tropping on the bridge?"

The Little Billy Goat stuttered, "See, Mr Troll we are wearing our masks." Troll looked at them and turned red with anger and thundered, "A mask is to be worn to cover your nose and mouth and look how sloppily you are wearing your masks, your noses are not covered.

Go back right now and wear your masks correctly."



The three Billy goats galloped home as fast as they could.

They complained about the Troll to Mother Billy Goat and she shook her head and said, "I don't think the Troll is wrong. He is trying to keep the meadow safe by ensuring that everyone follows safety protocols. Now wear your masks and ensure that your nose and mouth is covered and stays covered even when you talk." The three Billy goats wore their masks again and looked at their reflection in the stream to check whether they had worn them correctly. They practised speaking with their mask on to ensure that their masks don't slide down while talking. They were now very hungry and their stomachs were rumbling with hunger.



Once again they pranced to the bridge. The Troll was nowhere in sight.

Trip-trop, trip-trop, trip-trop, trip-trop



Trip trop

trop

trip

They were halfway across the bridge when they heard sounds of sobbing, they looked under the bridge and there sat the Troll with his head in his hands, sobbing away.

Big Billy Goat said, "Let's find out if he needs our help."

Middle Billy Goat shook his head and said, "Why should we bother? Look he is not looking at us, why don't we just trip-trop across the bridge?"

Little Billy Goat said, "That is not what our mother has taught us, she says we must always try to help others, let's go down and ask him if he is alright."

"Well", said Big Billy Goat, "he will get angry if you go near him, remember he told us about physical distancing?"



"Yes", said Middle Billy Goat and he peered from the bridge railing and asked the Troll, "Are you alright Mr. Troll?"

The Troll looked up with teary eyes and said, "I am so tired of telling everyone to wear masks, wear them properly and maintain physical distancing, but they just don't listen. I am fed up now."

"Well", said Little Billy Goat, "why don't you try to be a little nice, then maybe they will listen to you."

"Hrummph!", said the Troll, "I have been nothing but nice, and yet no one is listening. I had to start shouting and getting angry with them because everyone is so uncaring about their safety and the safety of others."

The three Billy goats felt ashamed that they too had not listened to the Troll and called him ugly and mean.



"I have an idea", said Big Billy Goat, "what if we make a toll booth for you with signs and then you can only allow those that are following rules to cross the bridge?"

The Troll looked at them happily and asked, "You will do that for me?"

Little Billy Goat whispered to Middle Billy Goat, "See when he smiles, he does not look mean and ugly."

"Shush Little Billy Goat, let's be kind and helpful to the Troll" said Middle Billy Goat.



So the three Billy goats started working and put a barricade at both the ends of the bridge along with signs about wearing a mask and physical distancing. Middle Billy goat and Big Billy Goat volunteered to help the Troll maintain safety for everyone.

Little Billy Goat could not help as he was a 'kid' and kids are not allowed to go out during Corona pandemic, so he promised to stay at home.



Here is a song that they would sing for all the people crossing the bridge, to ensure they remember to follow the three good habits to fight **Corona virus**.

> Wear a mask, wear a mask, It keeps you safe from Corona virus, So, wear it well.



Wash your hands, wash your hands, It keeps you safe from Corona virus, So, wash them well.

Keep a safe distance, keep a safe distance, It keeps you safe from Corona, So, keep a safe distance.

Wear a mask, wash your hands, keep a safe distance. Do all three, do all three, They keep you safe from Corona virus so do all three.

> Do all three, do all three, Do all three and break the chain And stay safe from Corona virus.

Everyday Big Billy Goat and Middle Billy Goat would wear their masks and go trip-trop, trip-trop across the bridge to help the Troll maintain safety for all who crossed the bridge and then at the end of the day both Billy Goats would trip-trop, trip-trop to the lush green fields to munch the tasty grass and carry some home for Little Billy Goat too.





Ensure it covers your nose.

Ensure it covers your mouth.





33