

THE THREE GOATS AND THE TROLL

Retold by – Shari Shwartz, Helen Tomassini, Linda Widenmaier

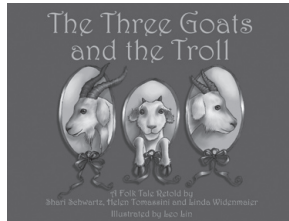
Illustrated by - Leo Lin

Genre – Narrative, Retelling of a Folktale

Set 17 - 453 Words

Building Anticipation - Setting the Context

Read the familiar version of *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*. An authentic version would be the one translated from *Popular Tales from the Norse* by Peter Christian Asbjornsen and Jorgen Moe. Tell students that this is a folktale and that folktales come from an oral tradition. These tales last throughout the years because of their universal themes and their language, not because of their pictures. In early times before most people could read, stories were meant for people of all ages. Traditional tales have been handed down from generation to generation by word of mouth. In contrast to a modern literary tale, a traditional tale has no identifiable author.



Folktales include tall tales, legends, fables, pourquoi tales, trickster tales and most fairy tales. Folktales usually tell the adventures of animal or human characters. They can include supernatural characters such as ogres, witches and giants. They often have supernatural helpers, magic, tasks, journeys and quests. They have common themes. One recurring theme is good triumphing over evil where good is rewarded and the evil is punished. Brainstorm for other folktales and talk about their characteristics.

Introduction

Tell students that one story may have different versions. As a group, retell the story of *The Three Little Pigs*. Talk about the fact that in some versions the wolf dies and in other versions the wolf runs away. Tell them they are going to read a story entitled the *Three Goats and the Troll*. Ask them to read it to see how it is same and how it is different from *The Three Billy Goats Gruff* version that you just read to them.

Discussion – Book Talk

Right there questions:

- Where did the goats want to go when they crossed the bridge?
- What was the troll doing when the first, second and third goat crossed the bridge?
- Why did the third goat not run away when he heard the troll?

Think and search questions:

- What happened at the end of the story? How is this different from the story that was read to you?
- What are other differences between the two stories? You may wish to use a Venn diagram for this question.
- Which version do you prefer? Why?

On your own questions:

- What other games do you think the troll and the goats played together?
- What book do you think the troll was reading when he was disturbed by the goat?
- In your opinion, which parts of the book could really have happened? How else do you think the troll could have solved the problem of his shaky home?
- How did knowing the story before help you when you read this retelling in the book?

Discussion - Book Talk

Discuss the events in the story and ask students to complete the *Story Map* on the reproducible master.

Creative Response – Independent Practice

Writing Workshop

Review some familiar folktales such as, *The Gingerbread Man*, *Little Red Riding Hood*, and *The Three Bears*. Have students write their own ending for a familiar folktale.

Read Aloud and Poetry Connections

Once-Upon-a-Time series, A series of traditional tales from Kids Can Press. Titles include; *Three Barnyard Tales*, *Three Tales of Trickery*, *Three Teeny Tiny Tales*.

The Three Billy Goats Gruff, Paul Galdone, The Seabury Press, 1973.

The Three Little Pigs by Paul Galdone, Clarion Books, 1984.

The Trouble with Trolls written and illustrated by Jan Brett, G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1992.

The True Story of the Three Little Pigs by Scieszka, Puffin, 1996.

Who's That Knocking on Christmas Eve? by Jan Brett, Putman, 2002.

Learning about Language – Focused Teaching

High Frequency Words - friend, began

Interest Words - bridge, troll, lonely, bellowed, problem

Word Families and Letter Clusters - *ll* in troll and bellow

Structural Features of Words – Onomatopoeia: shake, rattle, creak -

Alliteration and repetition: *trip trapping*

Text Features - Use of bold print: pages 4, 8 - Use of shaped print: page 12 - Folktale beginning: *Once upon a time...*

Story Map

Where _____

Characters _____

Problem _____



Event 1 _____

Event 2 _____

Event 3 _____



Ending _____

