

# A-Book-A-Week: Classroom Instruction

## The Three Billy Goats Gruff

<b>Activity Card #1</b>	<b>Literacy Development Category:</b> Language Development: Experimenting with Usage
<b>Suggested Activity Order</b> <p><i>Many of us use more colloquial forms of English, particularly when it comes to the part of speech known as "the predicate nominative". When you talk with your family, you are more likely to say, "It's me" than the more formally correct "It is I". The Three Billy Goats Gruff allows children a perfect opportunity to hear and employ a formal usage of English, while experimenting with sounding like the characters.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Briefly review the story of The Three Billy Goats Gruff, making sure that the children understood that there were 3 different sized goats plus the troll.</li><li>2. Allow children to experiment with character voices. Ask how the troll would sound, then how the great big billy goat would sound, the little billy goat and finally, the middle-sized goat.</li><li>3. Then, ask children if they can remember what the youngest billy goat gruff answered when the troll asked, "Who's that tripping over my bridge?" If they cannot remember, turn to the page where the little billy goat gruff says, "Oh, it is only I."</li><li>4. Choose a child to "be" the littlest billy goat and a child to "be" the troll. Remind them of what their characters say, making sure that children use the "It is I" structure for their goat responses.</li><li>5. Repeat this process, sometimes substituting the two other goats to talk to the troll. And remember, although we want the children to use the correct form of English, we also want them to have fun experimenting with character voices.</li></ol>	<b>Materials Needed:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>□ <u>The Three Billy Goats Gruff</u> book</li></ul>

# The Three Billy Goats Gruff

<b>Activity Card #2</b>	<b>Literacy Development Category:</b> Language Development & Acts of Writing: Bigger than, smaller than
<b>Suggested Activity Order</b> <i>The Three Billy Goats Gruff provides numerous opportunities for language development. Today's activity combines acts of writing with enhancing children's concepts of size.</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Remind the children of the three different sized goats. Then, focus on the middle-sized billy goat, saying, "The big billy goat gruff was <b>bigger</b> than he and the littlest billy goat gruff was <b>smaller</b> than he."</li><li>2. Next, have a child stand. Ask all children to look for something in the room that is bigger than the child. Then have them look for something that is smaller than the child.</li><li>3. Distribute the folded sheets of paper. Tell the children that in the left-hand column, they can draw things from the classroom that are <i>smaller</i> than they are, and that in the right-hand column they can draw things that are <i>bigger</i> than they.</li><li>4. After the children have finished their drawings, call the group back together. On your chart paper, write "Things that are bigger than we are". Have the children tell you some of their ideas and record them in print. Repeat this process for "Things that are smaller than we are". Next to the item, record the name of the child who suggested it. Post your chart in the classroom so children can look for their names.</li><li>5. Tell the children that when they get home, they can look around their houses and add more pictures to their two columns.</li></ol>	<b>Materials Needed:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> <u>The Three Billy Goats Gruff</u> book</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Chart paper</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Marker</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> A sheet of paper for each child that has been folded lengthwise to create 2 columns (or you can use the form at the end of this file).</li></ul>

# The Three Billy Goats Gruff

<b>Activity Card #3</b>	<b>Literacy Development Category:</b> Lots of Links - Performing The Three Billy Goats Gruff
<b>Suggested Activity Order</b> <i>The Three Billy Goats Gruff is a story children love to perform. We have included cut-out characters. We recommend that you laminate them. You may use them for flannel board performances by attaching a bit of sandpaper to the back, or you may staple them to straws to use as puppets. If you decide to have a puppet show, as the children to create a bridge (they're usually quite good at this!) for the puppets to cross.</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Briefly review the book with the children, then ask if they can remember how to talk like the troll and the three different-sized goats.</li><li>2. Tell the children that we are now going to perform The Three Billy Goats Gruff, and select 4 students to be the puppeteers. If you're doing the flannel board, you may want to have individual children do the narrating while the other children supply the voices.</li><li>3. When you have finished, put either the puppets or the flannel board pieces at a center in your classroom so that the children can continue retelling this story.</li></ol>	<b>Materials Needed:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> <u>The Three Billy Goats</u> book</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Cut outs (at the end of this file)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Flannel Board (optional)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Class constructed bridge (optional)</li></ul>



*Some of the ideas in this week's lessons have been adapted from Judy Nyberg's (1995) Charts for Children. This book is available from [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) for \$10.36. It's a great resource for filling the classroom with meaningful, child-generated print!*

# The Three Billy Goats Gruff

<b>Activity Card #4</b>	<b>Literacy Development Category:</b> Authors Craft: Listening for Sounds and Recording Them
<b>Suggested Activity Order</b> <i>In this activity, we will be encouraging children to notice sounds in their environment. We will be modeling how to use the English sound system to capture the sounds we have created.</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Tell the children that this is a story in which sounds are very important. Ask them if they can remember the sounds that the goats made when they were crossing the bridge. If they are unsure, return to any of the pages in the book where the words "Trip trap, trip, trap appear."</li><li>2. Using a wooden desk, demonstrate how the goats' hooves might really have sounded if we heard them on a wooden bridge above us. Then, explain that authors often have to decide how to represent a sound through our speech, in order to write it down.</li><li>3. Take the children on a listening walk, either in your classroom or outside. When you return, ask the children to "make" some of the sounds they have heard.</li><li>4. After the children have made their sounds, use your chart paper to record their representation of the sounds. You can use either the Dr. Seuss alphabet card or this month's alphabet book, but, as you write down their sounds, show the children how you think about a sound and the letter that has made it.</li><li>5. When you are finished, let the children know that they have just done something that authors often have to do.</li></ol>	<b>Materials Needed:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>□ <u>The Three Billy Goats</u> book</li></ul>

Cut Outs for *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*



# Smaller Than, Bigger Than



Smaller than I am



Bigger than I am