



THREE BILLY GOATS BUFF

– SEL THEMES & CONVERSATION STARTERS –

Listen to the episode: <https://jonincharacter.com/three-billy-goats-buff/>

The summary and SEL themes for this episode are on the next page followed by a list of questions for deep thinking, reflection and open-ended discussions about the “Three Billy Goats Buff.”

Summary of Story Themes and Lessons:

1. Everyone has their own special strengths: The three goat siblings each solve problems in different ways using a combination of clever thinking, self-confidence and physical strength.
2. Clever thinking can be just as powerful as physical strength: The goats show that thinking carefully and staying calm can help solve difficult problems.
3. Teamwork helps us overcome challenges: By trusting and supporting one another, the siblings make it safely across the bridge together.
4. Preparation and perseverance matters: Redge learns that doing a task a little at a time and staying consistent works better than waiting until the last minute.
5. Courage comes in many forms: Being brave does not always mean fighting. Sometimes courage means staying calm, making smart choices, and believing in yourself.

Summary of SEL Themes

- Self-Awareness – The story shows how each goat recognizes and uses their own unique strengths. It encourages listeners to reflect on what they are good at and how their abilities can help others.
- Self-Management – Redge learns the importance of preparation, balance, and pacing himself instead of trying to do everything at the last minute.
- Social Awareness – The goats think about one another’s safety and work together toward a shared goal. Listeners are encouraged to understand different perspectives and appreciate others’ strengths.
- Relationship Skills – The siblings cooperate and build on each other’s actions to solve a problem together. The story highlights teamwork, communication, and supporting one another.
- Responsible Decision-Making – Each goat carefully decides how to respond to the troll instead of reacting impulsively. Children see examples of problem-solving, planning ahead, and thinking through consequences.

Download the color page:

https://dorktale.s3.us-west-1.amazonaws.com/18+Three+Billy+Goats+Buff+Funsheet_Dorktales+Storytime+Podcast.pdf

– DISCUSSION QUESTIONS –

Brains vs. Brawn:

- Which goat do you think solved the problem in the smartest way? Why?
- Can you think of a time when you solved a problem by thinking carefully?
- What are some ways people can show strength besides lifting heavy things?

Teamwork and Sibling Support:

- How did the goats help one another get safely across the bridge?
- Why do you think the goats trusted each other's plan?
- Have you ever worked together with siblings, friends, or classmates to solve a problem?
- What makes teamwork easier or harder?

Courage and Confidence:

- Were the goats brave even when they felt scared?
- Which character would you have been most like in the story?
- Redge waited until the last day to train for his challenge. What lesson did he learn?

Making Smart Choices:

- Why was it important that each goat thought first before acting?
- What might have happened if the goats rushed or panicked?
- Redge waited until the last day to train for his challenge. What lesson did he learn?

Healthy Habits and Balance:

- Why did Jonathan remind Redge not to push himself too hard?
- What are some healthy ways to take care of your body and mind?
- What activities make you feel strong, happy, or energized?

Imagination and Story Fun:

- What was the funniest part of the story for you?
- If you could create your own silly troll character, what would they be like?
- What kind of snack would be waiting on top of your magical hill?
- If you added another animal character to the story, who would it be?