

Introduction



There are many stories that have trolls in them. Trolls, like dragons, giants and unicorns, have been talked and written about for hundreds of years. One very well-known story, I am sure you will know, is about a very angry troll that tried to stop goats going over a bridge to feed on the rich, green grass.

But is this what all trolls are really like?

The information that follows has been written by Professor Folklore, an expert on Trolls from the University of Myth and Legend.

He provides some basic information on these strange, often misunderstood mythical creatures. You can decide what you think maybe true and what needs more research to establish the truth.

Professor Folklore needs other experts to write more about trolls so that the 'truth' can be shared across the world. He wondered whether you could also become an expert on trolls. Can you dream up some of your own interesting and amazing information to set the record straight and not let trolls just be known as nasty, mean creatures?

Read the following article about trolls and think about which information might be true or false?

The Truth about Trolls

Many people believe trolls are angry, mean beasts that terrify goats and people. However, this is not true. Here is the truth about trolls.

What do trolls look like?

Like the ogre, trolls are huge. They look fierce and ugly but to another troll they are kind and beautiful. The adult troll has small, beady eyes, a bulbous, warty nose and sharp, yellow teeth. Most trolls have long, curly horns on their heads similar to a goat. Interestingly, a few trolls do not have any horns at all. No one knows why.



Where do trolls live?

Trolls are usually found in very cold countries like Iceland. They make their homes in caves near volcanoes which provide both warmth and shelter. They live peacefully in small family groups, hidden away from people. One troll, who was very grumpy, lived alone under a wooden bridge. Because he bullied the local goats, he gave all trolls a very bad name.



Photo by Michael Behrens on Unsplash

What do trolls eat?

Trolls enjoy eating all types of seafood. Trolls fish in total darkness so that they are not seen by anyone. They mostly eat their food raw. Sometimes, when the volcanoes have erupted, they cook their food on the hot rocks. In addition, they gather large mushrooms and dig up juicy roots that grow in the forest. Surprisingly, goats are not on the menu!

Did you know?

Amazingly, trolls like to have fun. They love singing and dancing. When they sing, it sounds like a rumble of thunder. When they dance, it feels like an earthquake. Sadly, because of the troll that upset the goats, all trolls now hide away from view.

They can still be seen, though, if you look really hard and believe. The rocks here are actually just sleeping trolls!



Professor Folklore
'Friend of the Troll'

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Glossary

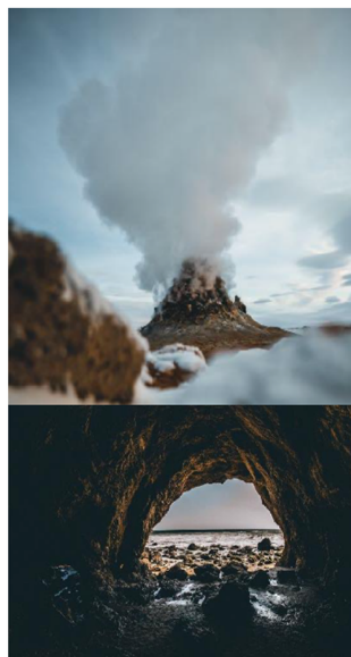
Here's some help with the tricky technical vocabulary:

earthquake: Sudden shaking of the ground when the Earth's surface moves. Can cause terrible destruction.

volcano: a hole in the Earth, usually a mountain, where very hot, molten rock (magma) and hot gas from the centre of the Earth erupts – can cause terrible destruction

erupt: the action that happens when a volcano spits out hot molten rock (magma) and gas – can cause terrible destruction

cave: Hole or space in rock big enough for a person to go into.



Further information about volcanoes and earthquakes can be found here.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z849q6f/articles/zj89t39> Earthquakes

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z849q6f/articles/zd9cxyc> Volcanoes

Now complete the tricky vocabulary challenge -Activity 1

What do the words mean?

- ★ Read the information on trolls again. All of the words below are in bold. See if you can work out what they mean and jot down your ideas here.
- ★ If you are stuck, there is a list of similar words below to help you. If you are still stuck, you could ask someone else in your home to tell you, use a dictionary or the internet.

Target Word	Definition that fits with the information text
mean	
terrify	
ogre	
fierce	
bulbous	
warty	
shelter	
peacefully	
bullied	
raw	
gather	

Similar Words Help Box

scare uncooked collect quietly (not at war) nasty home

big and swollen lumpy angry giant frightened

Activity 2:- Have another read of the Trolls text and remind yourself what it is about and check any words you are unsure of.

Complete these adjective challenges. Adjectives are used to describe a **noun**. Using adjectives help to make our writing more interesting and exciting.

The **tired, old** man walked across the **busy** road.

To make information writing interesting for the reader you can add adjectives to describe different nouns. In 'The Truth about Trolls', the writer, Professor Folklore, has decided to describe the eyes, nose and teeth of the trolls using two adjectives.

These have been separated using a **comma** as this is a list.

small, beady eyes _____ , _____ eyes

bulbous, warty nose _____ , _____ nose

sharp, yellow teeth _____ , _____ teeth



Try and think of some interesting adjectives to describe different bits of a troll. Try to make your troll seem friendly or unfriendly.

The troll has:

_____ , _____ horns

_____ , _____ hair

_____ , _____ ears

_____ , _____ hands

Challenge 1: Choose some other parts of a troll to describe using two adjectives.

_____	,	_____	_____
_____	,	_____	_____
_____	,	_____	_____
_____	,	_____	_____

Sentence of 3 game

You can see that 3 features have been used to help describe the troll:

The troll has beady eyes, a bulbous nose and yellow teeth.

Now use your nouns and adjectives from above to write new sentences of three to describe your troll.

The troll has _____ , _____ and _____ .

You need a **comma** after the first of the three things. Then use **and** after the second of the three things you are describing.

The troll has wicked eyes, a hooked nose **and** terrible breath.



Activity 3

Now have a go at drawing your own troll. What would it look like? How would it smell? What would it eat? You can label your drawing using your adjectives work if you want to.