Inside you’ll find lots of things to work through that will help you with your writing skills and build on the work you do at school.

I’m your virtual teacher, so let’s explore together and get your journey started!
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?
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.
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 on Earthquakes from BBC Bitesize
[https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z849q6f/articles/zj89t39](https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z849q6f/articles/zj89t39)

Further Information on Volcanoes from BBC Bitesize
[https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z849q6f/articles/zd9cxyc](https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z849q6f/articles/zd9cxyc)
After Reading the text. Can you answer these six questions?

1. Why do trolls make their homes in a cave near a volcano?

2. What do trolls have that is similar to goats?

3. How did the trolls get a very bad name?

4. What time do trolls fish and why?

5. What was a surprising fact about what trolls eat?

6. Why are the trolls hiding away?