

Who was the real troll of the bridge?

Thorvald the Troll was born in the 19th century in northern Norway. He lived in the **mountainous** town, Tromsø.

Early Life

When Thorvald was born he had a squashed nose, pointy ears and green eyes. His sister trolls loved him very much even though he looked different. Anna remembers, "Thorvald always smiled and laughed."

Then he went to school and everything changed. The others laughed at him because of how he looked. On one occasion, an unkind child tripped him up so he fell on his face. After that, his teeth were permanently wonky.

Thorvald's parents knew his favourite subject was nature. He became an expert and could name any bird or flower!

Growing Up and Moving On

As an adult, Thorvald found it hard to get work. After a while, a farmer gave him a job mending bridges. He was a tremendous worker and enjoyed spending time in the fresh air.

Nasty Neighbours

He lived in a cosy cave under one of the bridges. However, some people still made fun of him. Three **irresponsible** billy goats came to annoy him every day. They trip-trapped noisily over the bridge while Thorvald was sleeping.

Eventually, he climbed up and shouted at them. They pushed him right off the bridge and into the water! Luckily, Thorvald was a great swimmer and escaped down the river.

A Quiet Life

Thorvald decided to live secretly in the mountains. He wrote books all about wildlife. He also opened a home for retired goats. Thorvald died aged 97 years old. Most people remember him as an angry, dangerous monster and say that he ate the billy goats. Really, he was a kind but sadly *misunderstood* creature.