

# Story Guide

## STORIES, SONGS AND SPOONERISMS BY Bill Harley

Watch the video of storyteller Bill Harley live at the 2018 National Storytelling Festival [here](#).

(Right click on link to open it in a new tab.)

Story run time is 31:01.

Now, enjoy exploring the story with the activities outlined below.



### explore it

- Bill opens with a song written from a child's perspective. Why do you think he chooses to open his set this way? What do you think his audience looks like?
- The story "The Pirate Dirty Joe" is done as a poem. How does this format affect the story? Do you like hearing a story as a poem?
- Describe how the mood changes in Bill's storytelling set as he begins with the song "My Dad Said," moves to the poem "The Pirate Dirty Joe," tells about his dad, shares a spoonerism story and ends with "Milo's Tune."



### think it

- Name all the places the dad tells the child to walk to in the song "My Dad Said."
- The last verse of the song "My Dad Said" ends differently than the other verses. How does the song change?
- Compare and contrast the two pirate groups portrayed in "The Pirate Dirty Joe."
- Click [here](#) to read three versions of "The Billy Goats Gruff." How is Bill's version different?
- "Milo's Tune" tells how Milo discovers a reason for being. What does Milo learn?



### create it

- Create a puppet show to illustrate the song "My Dad Said" by making a puppet of the dad and his child (decorate paper bags or cut out figures from paper). Use the puppets to act out the song as you listen to it.
- Illustrate the ships of Dirty Joe and Stinky Annie with the different sails flying in the wind.
- In the poem "The Pirate Dirty Joe," Joe calls his crew "lily livered lumps of lard" which is an example of alliteration, where each word starts with the same letter or sound. Create several alliterations of your own.



### tell it

- Bill uses spoonerisms like "foney bingers," "ross over a civer" and "giggest boat of all" in the fairy tale "The Gilly Boats Gruff." Write and say your name as a spoonerism. Can you tell a fairy tale using spoonerisms?
- Think of something you're often asked to do like clean your room, go out and play, or eat your veggies. Write a poem or song about what you are asked to do and how to do it.
- Bill tells about family relationships in many of his songs and stories. Choose a family member and journal about your relationship with them.