

On Being a Notchview Troll

While you are "Skiing the Magic" at the BKYSL festival at beautiful Notchview Reservation in Windsor, Massachusetts, please remember that we have trolls that live and ski in our woods. Our trolls are mostly friendly, but they are shy and not too sure of strangers. We know that there are trolls from Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont that haven't been seen yet.

The best method to both see a troll and make friends with them is to look like a troll. Trolls have pointy ears and tails, their clothes can be raggedy since trolls care more about skiing than fashion. Just like people, every troll is different; no two trolls have the same ears and tails. Troll ears can either be floppy or stick straight up.

Here are some suggestions on how to make your own ears and a tail. You will need some brown fuzzy cloth, some scissors and glue, and either safety pins or needle and thread. Some pink felt is optional. Remember, this is just a guide, every tail and set of ears is unique.

Cut a triangle from the brown fuzzy cloth. This does not need to be exact, just know that the bigger the base of the triangle, the bigger the ear; the taller the triangle, the longer the ear. If you want some pink inside, cut a smaller triangle of the pink felt and glue it to the inside of the fuzzy cloth (this will be the side that is *not fuzzy*). Pinch the ears about halfway down and put a stitch or two in to shape the ears. Now fold the two bottom corners together, slightly overlapping each other. Either use a safety pin or needle and thread to hold it together. Attach this ear to your hat using a safety pin or by sewing.

TAILS:

Tails are: *the hindmost part of a troll, esp. that forming a distinct, flexible appendage to the trunk.*

Tails can be whatever material and color you want to use: rope, yarn, cloth, grass, the sky is the limit. They can be braided or not. They attach to your jacket or pants by a safety pin. If you braid yarn, make sure you tie the end tight.

The main point is to have fun with this activity.

Please note: Sometimes the trolls are so pleased to see young people looking like them that they give out prizes and hugs for being the most troll-like. So go for it everyone! We want to see plenty of trolls at Notchview!