

Decodable Texts: Long Vowel Teams: Both au & aw

"This story focuses on the 'aw' and 'au' sounds, like in 'draw' and 'cause.' Watch for words like 'draw,' 'claw,' and 'taut' as you read!"



How a Painting Is Drawn

An artist's job might look easy, but every painting starts with a careful plan. Before the first line is drawn, the artist thinks about what feeling the art should show.

Some artists use thick daubs of paint to cover the canvas. Others stretch the cloth tight and keep it taut while they work.

An author might write a story about a brave hawk, while an artist might draw that hawk with wide wings and sharp claws.

If paint spills, the artist quickly grabs a clean cloth to blot the mess. Mistakes happen, but that's no cause to give up. Great art often comes from learning and trying again!

After reading the story, have your child point to and slowly sound out each practice word.

draw

author

cause

claw

taught



Name: _____

How a Painting Is Drawn

1. What does an artist do before starting a painting?

- A. Quickly draw lines everywhere
- B. Make a careful plan and think about the feeling they want to show
- C. Draw only animals
- D. Ask someone else to finish the painting

2. What does an artist do if paint spills?

- A. Leaves it on the painting
- B. Uses a clean cloth to blot the mess
- C. Starts a new painting
- D. Calls their aunt to help

3. Fill in the blank:

Great art often comes from learning and trying _____.

4. Why do you think it's helpful for an artist to plan before drawing?

5. If you could draw anything, what would you choose and what feeling would you show?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: Long Vowel Teams 'aw' and 'au'

Genre: Nonfiction – Arts & Creativity

High-Frequency Words: the, and, to, they, their

Before Reading

1. Remind them of the target skill: "We're reading to find 'aw' and 'au' words that say the /aw/ sound, like in 'draw' and 'cause.'"
 2. Have you ever tried painting or drawing something special?
 3. What do you think makes a piece of art beautiful?
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During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support:** Remind kids that both 'aw' and 'au' make the /aw/ sound. Try that sound first when sounding out tricky words.
 2. Watch for 'aw' and 'au' words and stretch them out clearly.
 3. What does the artist do to fix mistakes?
 4. Try reading the last sentence like you're encouraging someone who is learning something new!
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After Reading

1. Can you retell the steps an artist takes before and during painting?
 2. Why is it okay to make mistakes while creating art?
 3. What kind of art makes you feel happy or calm?
 4. Skill mastery prompt: "Find and underline 5 'aw' or 'au' words in the story!"
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Try reading the story again like you're teaching a fun art class!
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Activity Idea

Create your own artwork using the "daub and blot" method. Afterward, write a short sentence about how you made your art and include at least three 'aw' or 'au' words to describe it. Share your art with a friend or family member!

Coaching Tip

Encourage your reader to feel proud of their efforts—whether in reading or art, trying again always leads to growth!

