

Decodable Texts: All Long Vowel Teams

"This nonfiction text explains how bridges are built. Look for long vowel teams like 'ea,' 'ue,' 'oa,' 'ie,' and 'ow' in words such as 'breeze,' 'stone,' and 'glue.'"



How Bridges Are Made

Bridges help people cross over rivers, roads, and valleys.

Each bridge has a strong base made of stone, steel, or wood.

Teams use glue, rope, tools, and plans to build them.

Some bridges have rails to keep walkers safe.

Others hang low and sway in the breeze.

Designers choose shapes that stay strong and last through wind and rain.

New bridges are tested before cars and bikes can go.

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

glue

stone

breeze

road

rail



Name: _____

How Bridges Are Made

1. What are bridges used for?

- A. To keep birds warm
- B. To help people cross
- C. To block rivers
- D. To fly over towns

2. What do designers think about when building?

- A. The color
- B. How strong and safe it is
- C. What music to play
- D. The shape of tires

3. Fill in the blank:

New bridges are tested before _____ and bikes can go.

4. What are some materials used to make bridges strong?

5. Why do you think it's important to test bridges before letting people use them?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: Mixed Long Vowel Teams

Genre: Nonfiction – Engineering / Design

High-Frequency Words: are, they, each, before, made

Before Reading

1. This nonfiction piece blends vowel teams like “ue,” “oa,” “ee,” and “ow.”
 2. Have you ever crossed a bridge? What did it look or feel like?
 3. Why do you think people need bridges?
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During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support:** Point out vowel teams in words like *glue*, *stone*, *breeze*, *rails*, and *road*.
 2. Watch for long vowel team words that describe materials, tools, or structure
 3. What must happen before people can use the bridge?
 4. Read the final line with confidence and clarity like a builder’s promise
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After Reading

1. Retell the steps or parts of building a bridge
 2. Why do you think teams use special shapes and tools?
 3. What kind of bridge would you build and where would it go?
 4. Skill Check: Highlight six mixed long vowel team words in the story
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Read it again in a steady, serious tone like a construction expert explaining blueprints
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Activity Idea

Draw a bridge crossing over a river or road. Label parts like rails, base, rope, and stone using long vowel team words. Write one sentence about why bridges are important.

Coaching Tip

Real-world nonfiction connects phonics with purpose—engineer a love of reading through science and design!

