

Decodable Texts: Long Vowel Teams: ew (chew)

"This nonfiction story focuses on the 'ew' sound as in 'chew.' Watch for words like 'flew,' 'crew,' and 'knew' as you learn how birds fly!"



How Do Birds Fly?

Birds have strong wings that help them fly through the sky.

When a bird flaps its wings, it pushes air and lifts high.

Some birds fly fast, while a few fly slow.

Tiny drops of morning dew shine on their feathers before they take off.

The bird crew knew just when to fly together.

They flew in a neat shape to help each other move through the wind!

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

flew

knew

dew

crew

few



Name: _____

How Do Birds Fly?

1. How do birds get off the ground?

- A. They flap their wings
- B. They sit and wait for wind
- C. They ask for help
- D. They hop really fast

2. What shines on their feathers before they fly?

- A. Sunlight
- B. Morning dew
- C. Raindrops
- D. Little bugs

3. Fill in the blank:

The bird crew _____ just when to fly together.

4. How does flying in a group help birds on a long trip?

5. What do you think birds see when they fly high above the ground?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: *ew* as in "chew" (/oo/ sound)

Genre: *Nonfiction – Life Science / Birds*

High-Frequency Words: *they, have, when, just, through*

Before Reading

1. This story uses "ew" words like *flew, crew, knew, dew, few, and through*.
 2. Have you ever watched birds flying together?
 3. Why do you think birds travel in groups when they fly long distances?
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During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support: Sounding Out Support:** Practice blending the /oo/ sound in "ew" words like *flew, crew, and knew*. Remind readers that "ew" at the end of words makes the long /oo/ sound.
 2. Watch for target skill words that show how birds use their wings and work together.
 3. What happens before birds take off into the sky?
 4. Read the final line like you're watching the birds fly high and proud!
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After Reading

1. Retell how birds use their wings and why they fly together.
 2. How do you think it feels to fly high above everything?
 3. If you could fly anywhere with a bird crew, where would you go?
 4. Skill Check: Highlight six "ew" words in the passage.
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Read it again using a smooth, flowing voice—just like birds flying through the air!
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Activity Idea

Draw a bird crew flying in a neat shape across the sky, with morning dew shining on their feathers. Label parts using "ew" words like *flew, crew, knew, dew, few, or through*. Write one sentence about where the birds are going.

Coaching Tip

Reading about how animals work together helps kids understand teamwork—every new word helps build this skill!

