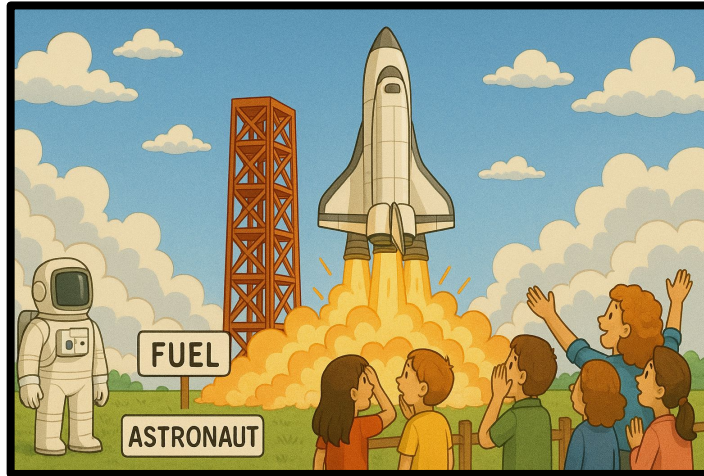


Decodable Texts: Long Vowel Teams: Both au & aw

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



How Rockets Launch into Space

Have you ever seen a rocket launch? It takes a lot of power and planning to send a rocket into space.

Before a rocket can launch, engineers check every part to make sure it works. Then, fuel is loaded, and the countdown begins.

With a loud roar, the engines fire. The ground shakes, and the rocket rises through the clouds.

People watch with awe as the rocket climbs higher and higher. Some rockets carry astronauts, and others carry tools to explore new places in space!

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

launch

cause

draw

haul

fault



Name: _____

How Rockets Launch into Space

1. What do engineers do before a rocket launches?

- A. They paint it bright colors
- B. They check every part to make sure it works
- C. They hide it underground
- D. They wave goodbye to the astronauts

2. How do people feel when they watch a rocket launch?

- A. They feel bored
- B. They feel sleepy
- C. They feel awe and excitement
- D. They feel confused

3. Fill in the blank:

With a loud roar, the engines fire, and the rocket rises through the _____.

4. Why is it important to check all the rocket's parts before launching?

5. If you could launch a rocket, where would you want it to explore?



Coaching Guide

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

Genre: Nonfiction – Science & Space

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 'launch' and 'awe.'"
 2. Have you ever seen a rocket launch on TV or in person?
 3. What do you think would be the most exciting part of visiting space?
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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. How do people feel when they see a rocket rise into the sky?
 4. Try reading the sentence about the engines firing with big, loud energy!
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After Reading

1. Can you retell the steps that happen before and during a rocket launch?
 2. Why do you think people feel awe when watching a rocket launch?
 3. If you were an astronaut, where would you explore in space?
 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 counting down to a real rocket launch!
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Activity Idea

Draw a rocket launching into space and label at least three important parts using 'aw' or 'au' words. Write a sentence about what kind of mission the rocket is on and what it will explore in space.

Coaching Tip

Encourage dramatic reading and countdowns—this makes informational stories feel exciting and alive!

