

## Decodable Texts: Long Vowel Teams: ou (young)

"This story focuses on the 'ou' sound as in 'young.' Watch for words like 'young,' 'rough,' and 'courage' as you read about Doug's brave adventure!"



### The Young Hiker's Brave Day

Doug was a young hiker trying his first big trail.

The path felt rough, and his boots rubbed his heels.

He saw a couple of kids having double the trouble with their heavy bags.

Doug gave them a kind touch and helped lift a strap.

At the steep hill, his cousin Gus asked, "Do you have the courage to climb?"

Doug took a tough breath and gave a nod.

Step by step, he made it to the top.

Doug grinned. "That wasn't so rough after all!"

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

young

rough

touch

double

trouble



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Young Hiker's Brave Day

1. What challenge did Doug face?

- A. Crossing a river
- B. Climbing a steep hill
- C. Finding his way home
- D. Cooking lunch

2. How did Doug help the other kids?

- A. He gave them a snack
- B. He helped lift their heavy bags
- C. He sang a song
- D. He found their map

3. Fill in the blank:

Doug saw a \_\_\_\_\_ of kids having double the trouble with their heavy bags.

4. What helped Doug show courage even when things felt rough?

---

---

---

5. How do you think Doug felt when he reached the top of the hill?

---

---

---



# Coaching Guide

---

**Target Skill:** *ou* as in "young" (/ŭ/ sound)

**Genre:** Fiction – Realistic Fiction / Adventure

**High-Frequency Words:** *his, the, have, with, after*

---

## Before Reading

1. This story uses “ou” words like *young, rough, trouble, double, touch*, and *courage*.
  2. Have you ever tried something hard that made you feel brave afterward?
  3. What helps you keep going when things feel tough?
- 

## During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support: Sounding Out Support:** Remind students that the “ou” spelling makes the /ŭ/ sound in words like *young, rough*, and *courage*.
  2. Watch how Doug helps others and shows bravery.
  3. What does Doug say at the end of his climb?
  4. **Fluency Tip:** Read Doug’s final words proudly, like you’ve just done something amazing!
- 

## After Reading

1. Retell what Doug faced on his hike and how he felt after.
  2. Why do you think helping others made Doug feel stronger?
  3. What is one brave thing you want to try this week?
  4. Skill Check: Highlight six “ou” words in the story.
  5. **Fluency Tip: Fluency Tip:** Read it again with a proud and brave voice!
- 

## Activity Idea

Draw Doug at the top of the big hill with a big smile. Label parts using “ou” words like *young, rough, double, trouble, touch*, or *courage*. Write one sentence about what helped Doug stay strong.

---

## Coaching Tip

Adventure stories help children build confidence—every challenge they read about makes them stronger readers and thinkers!

