

## Decodable Texts: Long Vowel Teams: au

"This story focuses on the 'au' sound as in 'author.' Watch for words like 'author,' 'fault,' and 'applaud' as you read!"



### What Does an Author Do?

An author is a person who writes books, poems, or articles. Authors use their ideas to teach, share stories, or make people laugh.

Before writing, an author often makes a plan. This helps them decide what to write about and who their readers will be.

Some authors write books about history or science. Others create fun adventures or poems that bring joy.

No matter what they write, authors help people learn and imagine new things through their words.

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

author

cause

haul

fault

pause



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

## What Does an Author Do?

**1. What does an author do before writing?**

- A. They start writing as fast as they can
- B. They make a plan
- C. They draw pictures first
- D. They ask someone else to write for them

**2. What kinds of things do authors write?**

- A. Books, poems, or articles
- B. Only letters to friends
- C. Just long stories about animals
- D. Notes for their parents

**3. Fill in the blank:**

No matter what they write, authors help people \_\_\_\_\_ new things.

**4. Why do you think it's helpful for an author to make a plan before writing?**

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**5. If you were an author, what kind of book or story would you write?**

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# Coaching Guide

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**Target Skill:** Long Vowel Team 'au' (as in "author")

**Genre:** Nonfiction – Jobs & Careers

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

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## Before Reading

1. Remind them of the target skill: "We're reading to find 'au' words that say the /aw/ sound, like in 'author.'"
  2. Have you ever wanted to write your own story or poem?
  3. What kinds of stories do you enjoy reading most?
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## During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support:** Remind kids that 'au' makes the /aw/ sound. Try that sound first when you see these letters.
  2. Watch for 'au' words and sound them out carefully.
  3. What do authors do to help them start their writing?
  4. Try reading the last sentence with excitement, like you're introducing a great new book!
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## After Reading

1. Can you retell what an author does before they start writing?
  2. Why do you think some authors write about real things and others write fun stories?
  3. Would you like to be an author someday? Why or why not?
  4. Skill mastery prompt: "Find and underline 5 'au' words in the story!"
  5. **Fluency Tip:** Try reading the story again like you're introducing an exciting author at a book event!
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## Activity Idea

Create your own author page just like in a real book! Draw a picture of yourself as an author and write a short biography. Include at least three 'au' words to describe the kinds of books or stories you would write. Share your "about the author" page with a friend or family member.

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## Coaching Tip

Praise your reader like they're a famous author—it's a fun way to celebrate learning and build confidence!

