

Decodable Texts: Long Vowel Teams: ou

"This nonfiction story teaches about volcanoes. Watch for 'ou' words like 'shout,' 'loud,' 'out,' and 'ground' as you learn how they work!"



What Is a Volcano?

A volcano is a mountain that can burst with hot stuff from deep underground.

When it erupts, lava shoots out and flows down the side.

Clouds of gas and ash float through the air.

Volcanoes are loud and strong, and they can change the ground.

Some are found near oceans, others in the mountains.

People who study volcanoes are always on the lookout.

They use tools to learn how and when one might blow.

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

loud

out

ground

shout

found



Name: _____

What Is a Volcano?

1. What happens when a volcano erupts?

- A. It rains
- B. It blows air
- C. Lava and gas come out
- D. It gets cold

2. What do scientists do?

- A. Stop the volcano
- B. Hide in caves
- C. Study and watch volcanoes
- D. Dig tunnels

3. Fill in the blank:

Volcanoes are loud and strong, and they can change the _____.

4. Why do people need to study volcanoes carefully?

5. What are two signs that a volcano might erupt?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: ou Vowel Team (Long /ow/ Sound)

Genre: Nonfiction – Earth Science

High-Frequency Words: from, they, who, are, how

Before Reading

1. This nonfiction story focuses on volcanoes and uses “ou” words like *out*, *cloud*, and *ground*.
 2. What do you already know about volcanoes?
 3. What would you do if you saw one start to erupt?
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During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support:** For “ou” words like *shout* and *loud*, help your child break the word and remember the /ow/ sound.
 2. Watch for ou words describing actions, sounds, and locations
 3. What comes out of a volcano during an eruption?
 4. Read the last line like a scientist giving an important safety tip
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After Reading

1. Retell what volcanoes do and what scientists do to study them
 2. What makes volcanoes both dangerous and interesting?
 3. What question would you ask a volcano expert?
 4. Skill Check: Circle six ou words in the passage
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Read the story again with strong, confident voice like a science show narrator
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Activity Idea

Draw a volcano erupting with lava, clouds, and scientists nearby. Label parts using ou words like “out,” “loud,” or “cloud.” Write one sentence about what happens when a volcano blows.

Coaching Tip

Nonfiction that includes action and sound supports both science and phonics—let your child think like a scientist while reading.

