COMPLETE STORY + QUIZ

Ivy Finds the Strongest Paper Bridge

Ivy Finds the Strongest Paper Bridge | Suggested ages 5-6



Ivy tests flat, folded, and arched paper bridges to discover how shape changes strength.

Read, talk, and discover

The complete story is followed by questions and a separate answer guide. Read aloud together, pause to talk, and take your time.

Print on US Letter at actual size, or choose Fit for A4. Use single-sided printing for activity cards. Black-and-white printing is suitable.

Part 1

Ivy needed a paper bridge for toy animals to cross between two equal block towers. She used one sheet for every test and counted only animals held for five seconds without bending.

Part 2

The first sheet lay flat across the gap. It held one wooden animal for five seconds, then bent when Ivy added a second.

Part 3

Ivy curved a new sheet into a gentle arch. It held three animals, then its sides spread when she added a fourth.

Part 4

For the third test, Ivy folded paper back and forth like an accordion. The many ridges made several small supporting walls.

Part 5

The accordion bridge slipped from one tower. Ivy added small paper tabs that hooked over both tower edges.

Part 6

She added animals one at a time and counted aloud. The folded bridge held seven, then its center bent when she added an eighth.

Part 7

Ivy repeated each test with the same tower gap and the same animals. Her chart showed flat one, arch three, accordion seven.

Part 8

Ivy learned that changing a material's shape can change its strength. A fair test helped her compare the bridge designs.

Draw, tell, or write

Draw your favorite part of the story. Tell a grown-up what happened before it and what happened next.

My favorite part, and why I chose it

STORY QUIZ

Think about the story

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Read each question and all the choices. Circle one answer. A grown-up can read aloud; you can point or say your answer, too.

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1. How many animals did the flat bridge hold?

A. Three animals	B. Seven animals	C. One animal

Tell someone how you decided, or write a few words.

2. What happened to the arched bridge?

A. Its sides spread outward	B. It turned into metal	C. It floated above the towers

Tell someone how you decided, or write a few words.

3. What made supporting walls in the third bridge?

A. Painted dots	B. Accordion folds	C. A cotton string

Tell someone how you decided, or write a few words.

Questions 4 to 5

4. How many animals did the folded bridge hold?

A. Two animals	B. Ten animals	C. Seven animals

Tell someone how you decided, or write a few words.

5. Why was Ivy's comparison fair?

A. She used the same gap and animals each time	B. She changed every part	C. She tested only one bridge

Tell someone how you decided, or write a few words.

ANSWER GUIDE

For the grown-up

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Keep this page separate from the child's activity. Read directions aloud when helpful, and invite the child to explain their ideas.

1. C - One animal

One animal

2. A - Its sides spread outward

Its sides spread outward

3. B - Accordion folds

Accordion folds

4. C - Seven animals

Seven animals

5. A - She used the same gap and animals each time

She used the same gap and animals each time

Keep exploring

Draw your favorite part of the story. Tell a grown-up what happened before it and what happened next.