

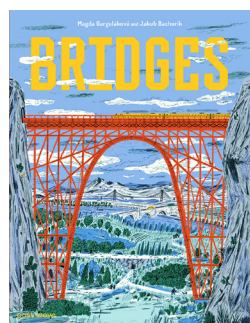
Bridges

by Magda Garguláková

and illustrated by Jakub Bachorík

A Maze of Bridges

The world is full of bridges – they are the structures that connect people, communities and civilisations. On the map below, can you make your way across land to the finish point? How many bridges do you cross to get there?



ISBN: 9781836270119
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by Magda Garguláková and
illustrated by Jakub Bachorík
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FUN FACTS

NUMBER OF BRIDGES PER RIVER:

Amazon	0
Rhein	102
Vltava	107
Danube	133
Mississippi	142
Yangtze	160
Thames	214

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Test Your Knowledge

How much do you know about bridges? Answer the questions below and find out!

1. What supports a bridge at its ends and absorbs the many forces placed upon it?

- a) Foundations
- b) Abutments
- c) Bearings
- d) Deck

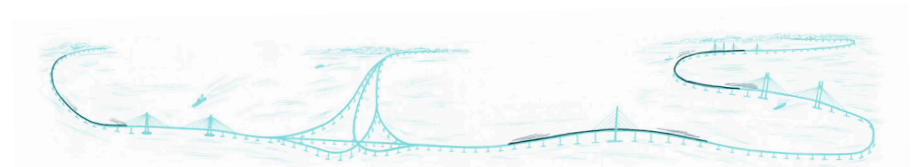


2. Which bridge structure is best for covering long distances?

- a) Beam bridge
- b) Arch bridge
- c) Suspension bridge
- d) Cantilever bridge

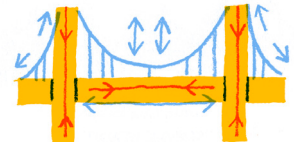
3. Danyang-Kunshan Grand Bridge is currently the world's longest bridge, but how long is it?

- a) 1.8 km
- b) 16.8 km
- c) 164.8 km
- d) 1,640.8 km



4. The Millau Viaduct in France is Europe's tallest bridge, but how high is it?

- a) 34 m
- b) 343 m
- c) 3,430 m
- d) 30,430 m



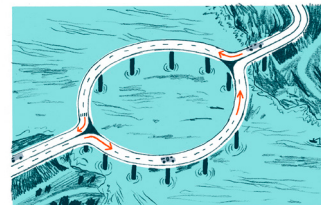
5. Which of these famous bridges is the oldest?

- a) The Ponte Vecchio in Florence, Italy
- b) The Ponte di Rialto in Venice, Italy
- c) The Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, USA
- d) Tower Bridge in London, UK



6. The Laguna Garzón Bridge in Uruguay has a circular shape but why?

- a) It's built around a whirlpool
- b) The architect liked circles
- c) To force drivers to slow down as they drive over it
- d) So you can see the fish in the river below as you drive across it



7. The Romans invented a bridge to carry water, but what is it called?

- a) Viaduct
- b) Aqueduct
- c) Caesar's bridge
- d) Iron Bridge



8. Which famous architect designed the Clifton Suspension Bridge in Bristol?

- a) Isambard Kingdom Brunel
- b) Gustave Eiffel
- c) Thomas Telford
- d) Norman Foster

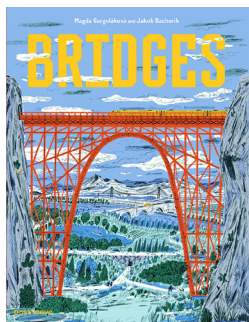
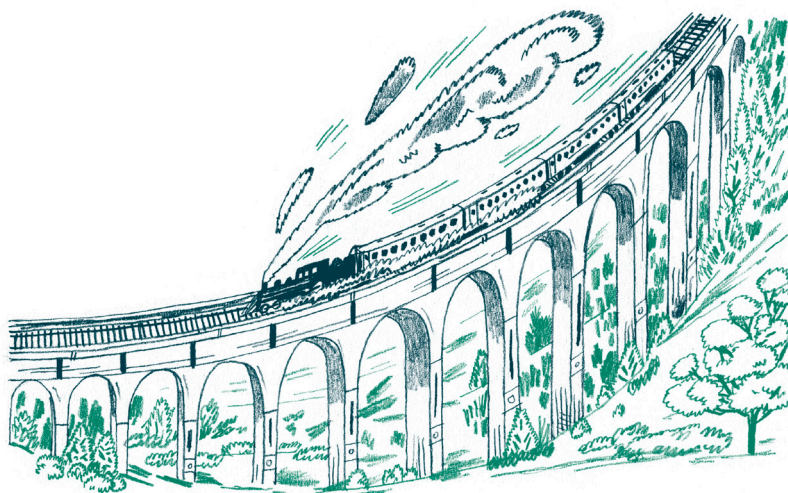


9. What role does a geologist play in the construction of a bridge?

- a) Manages the workers and ensures that work goes smoothly
- b) Examines the subsurface at the site and advises on how to make the foundations safe
- c) Helps with preparation and inspection of parts underwater
- d) Plans the bridge's appearance, designs its structure, produces technical drawings of it and supervises its construction

10. Gephyrophobia is the fear of what?

- a) Spiders
- b) Heights
- c) Bridges
- d) Flying



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Answers: 1: b); 2: d); 3: c); 4: b); 5: a) opened in 1345; 6: c); 7: b); 8: b); 9: a); 10: c)



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Build a Spaghetti Bridge

Can you make a bridge using just pasta, sticky tape and glue? Try to make a bridge that is strong enough to hold the weight of paper clips or coins.

1. Begin by playing with, and testing, different types of pasta.

Engineers use a range of materials in multiple shapes for different uses. Decide which pasta shape would be best to build your bridge with.

2. Draw a plan of your bridge at the bottom of this page.

Tip: Think about compression (the parts of your bridge that will be pushed together) and tension (the parts that will be pulled apart).

3. Make your bridge and see how many paper clips or coins it will hold.

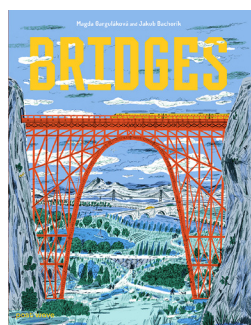
Record below how many coins your bridge held, which shape was the strongest and what you might do differently?



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