



Search and Explore: The Golden Gate Bridge

- The *Golden Gate Bridge* is a *suspension bridge* that spans a long distance.
- The area known as the “golden gate” is where the San Francisco Bay meets the Pacific Ocean.
- A *bay* is part of an ocean or lake that is partly enclosed by land.

Key Vocabulary

- Golden Gate Bridge
- suspension bridge
- *bay*

Lesson Options: Select lesson elements to create a single-day or multiday lesson.

Lesson Elements

Digital Playlist: Generally, children will complete the Digital Playlist first, then follow up with some or all of the activities described below. As you select and do those activities with your child, you may wish to reassign some or all of the digital activities for additional practice.

Explore Activity: This follow-up is designed to be used closely with the Digital Playlist to help your child understand the topic.

Dig Deeper Activity: This offline activity provides an additional learning experience with the same topic.

Extend Activity: This offline activity extends the child’s understanding and application of the same topic.

Explore Activity

Set Up

1. Gather the materials on the list.

Procedure

1. Have your child watch the video *The Golden Gate Bridge*.
2. Explain that a *suspension bridge* is a type of bridge where the deck—the area that people walk or drive on—is hung below long *suspension* cables. These cables, or steel wire ropes, are hung from two tall towers. These bridges can cross long distances.
3. After watching the video, have your child name and locate California, where the *Golden Gate Bridge* is located. Have them draw a star or put a sticker in the general area where the *Golden Gate Bridge* is located.
4. Optionally, have your child look up other bridges and draw a star or put a sticker in the general area where those bridges are.
5. Review the parts of the *Golden Gate Bridge* as shown in the video.

Materials

- United States Map Printable
- Four empty toilet tissue cardboard rolls (alternatively, paper towel tubes)
- Scissors
- Orange paint
- Toy cars and boats (optional)

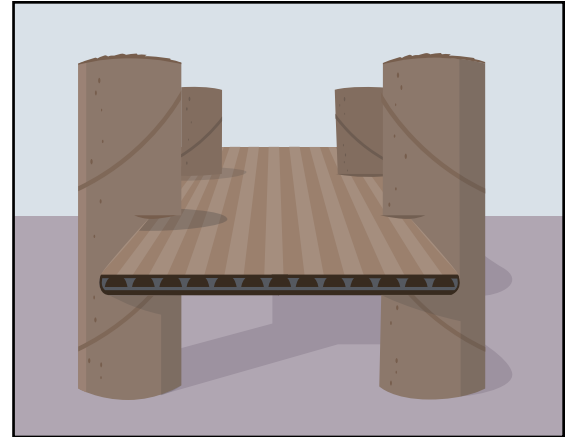


Cultures and Places to Explore

The Golden Gate

6. Invite your child to work with you to build a model of a bridge. Make slits in the toilet paper rolls and insert the cardboard to make the bridge.
7. You may wish to tape yarn to model the cables.
8. Paint the bridge orange, noting that the *Golden Gate Bridge* is painted orange.
9. Use available toys or household items to model cars traveling on the bridge and boats traveling *under* the bridge.
10. Ask: *Why is the bridge important to people living in San Francisco?*

Sample answer: “It is the easiest way for people to get to different places since the bridge crosses over the water.”



Dig Deeper Activity

Set Up

1. Gather the materials on the list.

Procedure

1. Watch the video *Search and Explore: “The Golden Gate Bridge.”* Focus on the section about the San Francisco Bay.
2. Explain that a *bay* is part of an ocean or lake that is partially surrounded by land.
3. Display and discuss photos of the San Francisco Bay. Help your child see how the *bay* is partially enclosed by land. Notice how the bridge looks like a “gate” that separates the *bay* and the ocean.
4. Invite your child to draw a picture of the *bay*, using light blue to show the water. Then have them to use a darker blue at the edge of the paper to show that the water in the *bay* connects to the water in the ocean, which is not surrounded by land.
5. Refer to the end of the video that shows animals that live in the *bay*. Have your child draw five animals that live in the *bay*. Encourage them to add details.

Materials

- Drawing paper
- Light and dark blue paint or markers
- Markers of different colors
- Photos of the San Francisco Bay

Extend Activity

Set Up

1. Gather the materials on the list.

Materials

- Drawing paper
- Markers or crayons



The Golden Gate

Procedure

1. Read the book *Search and Explore: The Golden Gate Bridge*. Focus on the section about the San Francisco Bay.
2. On the last page of the book (page 43), point out the legend. Read the phrase next to each symbol with your child.
3. Guide your child to make a connection between the frame color around each animal's picture and the legend. For example, say: *Jellyfish has a blue circle. On the legend, the color blue is next to the phrase "Sea Surface." This tells me that a jellyfish lives on or near the sea surface.*
4. Then, invite your child to draw a picture of ocean, showing the three layers mentioned in the glossary. Have them draw each animal in the correct location in the sea.

MODIFICATIONS

Beginning Learner	Advanced Learner
Some children may have difficulty understanding the numbers and measurements mentioned about the bridge. Guide them to make connections, such as: <i>Let's use a tape measure to find 9 ½ feet. Let's cut a piece of string to show that length.</i> Use the tape measure to measure out a 9 ½-foot bit of string. Then, fashion that string into a circle to show how big the cables are. Next, display a map and locate New York City and San Francisco. Say: <i>A sidewalk connecting these cities would be very, very long.</i>	Your child may be ready to learn about the animals found in the <i>bay</i> . Have them choose one animal that lives in the <i>bay</i> area. Guide them to use reference books and internet sources to find out what the animal eats, where it lives, and how it stays safe from predators.

Signs of Success and Needs

One sign that your child understands about the *Golden Gate Bridge* is if they can explain what the bridge looks like and where it is located.

Children may have difficulty understanding the parts of the bridge or why it is called a *suspension* bridge. Use photos and images in the videos to reinforce how the bridge works.

Our activities are designed to be safe with adult supervision. Please follow directions carefully.



Cultures and Places to Explore

The Golden Gate

United States Map

