

Building the Brooklyn Bridge

Lesson Summary

Learning Outcomes

- The Brooklyn Bridge is a suspension bridge.
- The critical engineering components of a suspension bridge are: towers; foundation for the towers (caissons); main cables; suspension cables (stay and suspender); deck; anchors.
- The Roebling family built the Brooklyn Bridge.

Vocabulary

Suspend - to hang / hold up

Caisson - watertight chamber used for construction work under water

Tower - the tallest structures of the bridge on which the main cables are resting

Cable - a wire rope

Deck - the roadway and pedestrian walkway of a bridge that is suspended

Engineer - a person who designs and builds things

Bedrock - the solid rock underlying soil or other sediments

Anchor - a large metal plate attached to the main cables which holds them in place

Anchorage - the part of the bridge that covers the anchor

Summary of Trip Activities

Trip activities may occur in a different order and/or the class may be shortened if your group is late. The educators may also change elements based on their assessment of students' needs.

History and Construction of the Brooklyn Bridge

Seated on the carpet in the Education Center, we will learn about the history and construction of the Brooklyn Bridge.

Bridge Model Building

Working as a group, we will build a model of the Brooklyn Bridge.

Brooklyn Bridge Walk

As a group, we will walk from the Education Center to the Brooklyn tower of the Brooklyn Bridge.