

Activity #15 (Part 1 of 2)

Where in the World...American Bridges

The American landscape is dotted with unique bridges. Below are five examples of different bridges, some of which are considered engineering marvels. As you look over the information, notice the difference between the length and span of each bridge.

	Eads Bridge	Brooklyn Bridge	Lake Pontchartrain Causeway	Golden Gate Bridge	Bollman Truss Bridge
Location	St. Louis, MO	New York, NY	New Orleans, LA	San Francisco, CA	Savage, MD
Built	1874	1883	1957	1937	1869
Length	6,442 ft	3,460 ft	124,700 ft	8,981 ft	160 ft
Spans	520 ft	1,595 ft	56 ft each	4,200 ft	80 ft
Type	arch	suspension	beam	suspension	truss

On the map below, place an “X” where each bridge is located.



Activity #15 (Part 2 of 2)

Convert feet to meters, rounding to the nearest whole (**Multiply feet by 0.3048 to convert to meters.**). Then, using a ruler, draw a bar graph showing both the length and span of each bridge. *(If a bridge is longer than the graph, show this by drawing an arrow at the end of the bar to indicate a continuation beyond the page.)*

Bollman Truss Bridge (Example)

Length 49 meters
Span 24 meters

Eads Bridge

Length
Span

Brooklyn Bridge

Length
Span

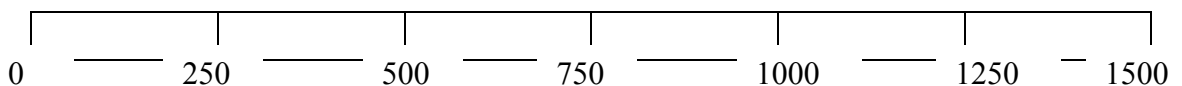
Lake Pontchartrain Causeway

Length
Span

Golden Gate Bridge

Length
Span

Meters



*What is the difference between the length and span of a bridge? Do you think they are ever the same?