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our AMAZING  
WORLD

CLIL READERS

# 7 ENGINEERING WONDERS OF THE MODERN WORLD

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# Introduction



**Golden Gate Bridge**

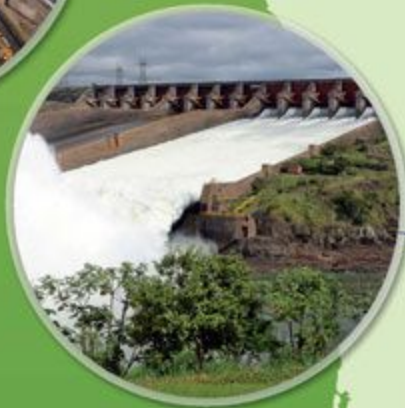


**CN Tower**

**Empire State Building**



**Panama Canal**



**Itaipu Dam**



**Channel  
Tunnel**

**Netherlands North Sea Protection Works**



**T**he seven modern wonders of the world, recognized by the American Society of Civil Engineers, are the seven greatest civil engineering achievements of the 20th century. They are wonderful because of their architectural greatness. They are special because they showcase modern man's ability to do the impossible. Each one has a positive impact on the world and is both a monument and an incredible feat of construction.

# The CN Tower

**T**he CN Tower in Toronto, Canada, is a telecommunications tower which broadcasts over 20 television, radio, and wireless signals across the city and even further into the province of Ontario.

The city of Toronto was in a building boom in the 1960s. All of a sudden, new skyscrapers were being erected towards the heavens. However, these impressive tall buildings blocked radio and TV signals in the city and made it difficult to move data between businesses. The Canadian National Railway (CN) decided to build a tall communications tower to tackle this problem. The tower had to be tall enough so that radio or TV signals would not be obstructed by other high-rise buildings.

Construction of the CN Tower got under way on February 6, 1973. A huge hole was dug in the ground to make the tower's foundation. Then, a 22-foot (6.7 meter) thick base made from concrete and reinforced with steel bars was put inside the hole. The tower built from these foundations was also made of concrete, which was mixed on site and pumped into the form. A massive total of 53,000 cubic yards (40,500 cubic meters) of concrete was poured into the form during the tower's construction. The CN Tower was constructed at an amazing rate of 18 feet per day. It was finished at a cost of \$63 million and opened to the public on June 26, 1976.

