

Simple Literature No. 54: Curriculum for
Helen Keller

by S. Seifert

Parents and teachers may reproduce study guides from any *Simple Literature* book for personal use in public, private, or home school classrooms. This material may not be included in printed or online curricula, or be distributed, personally, electronically, or commercially, except as cited above.

Simple Literature curricula is ©2008 copyrighted by S. Seifert. All rights reserved.

First printing, 2008 / Printing year, 2008

How to Use This Curriculum

- 1.** Have students read the selected book or assigned chapters for 20 to 30 minutes each day.
- 2.** When students have finished the assigned chapters or the book, ask the **Comprehension Questions**. A study guide worksheet is available for practice, but an oral discussion is appropriate for this age group.
- 3.** When you have finished discussing the comprehension questions, have students **Write a Paragraph**. Students should write in complete sentences, spell words correctly, capitalize the first letter of every sentence, and place a period at the end of each sentence.
- 4.** Although these guidelines work for this age group, remember that your students are individuals. Therefore, adjust the curriculum to your students' abilities and personalities.

Did you find something confusing, or are you excited about the curricula? You can contact us through <http://home.rmi.net/~seifert/id51.html>.

Although the number of e-mails received does not allow me to respond personally, every e-mail is read and appreciated.

If you want to view an alphabetical list of titles that have free comprehension questions, go to <http://home.rmi.net/~seifert/id50.html>.

S. Seifert

Curriculum for *Helen Keller* by Elizabeth MacLeod

OVERVIEW

1. Have students read for 20 to 30 minutes.
Reading for half an hour, and not a completed book, is the daily goal. A study guide for this book is available. If you assign it, let students complete the study guide while they are reading the book.
2. When students have finished reading the book, ask the comprehension questions (study guide questions). If you assigned the written study guide, students may read their answers from it.
3. Prompt students to write a paragraph.

SUMMARY

Helen Keller was born in 1880. At 19 months, she became sick. When the sickness left, she was deaf and blind. Alexander Graham Bell suggested that her parents look into a school for the blind. At that school, the Kellers found Annie Sullivan, who became Helen's teacher. She taught Helen sign language, and the first word Helen learned was *water*. Helen learned to read Braille and tell what people were saying by touching their lips. When Helen wanted to go to college, Annie went with her and spelled the lecture into her hand. Helen became the first deaf and blind person to graduate from college. After she was graduated, Helen gave speeches to let people know about her life, which people loved to hear. Helen traveled the world and raised a lot of money for other people like her. She died when she was 87.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. Helen was not always deaf and blind. When did she become deaf and blind? Helen Keller could hear and see until she became sick at 19 months. When the sickness passed, Helen no longer had her sight nor was she able to hear.

Sullivan helped Helen by spelling the words of each lecture in Helen's hand. Helen became the first deaf and blind person to graduate from college in the United States.
2. Who taught Helen to spell, read, and go to school? Annie Sullivan helped Helen learn to spell words in other people's hands, read Braille, and go to college.

4. Helen went to school. What did she do after she went to school? Helen gave speeches and told people about her life. Annie Sullivan helped her. First Helen would tell her story, and then Annie would repeat what she said so everyone could understand her. People liked to hear what Helen said, and Helen raised a lot of money to help other deaf and blind people.
3. What was Helen the first deaf and blind person to do? Helen wanted to go to college. Annie

WRITE A PARAGRAPH

Have students relate one aspect of *Helen Keller* to their own lives by writing a paragraph: Helen had many obstacles. She could not hear. She could not see. What are the obstacles that you face? Write about one thing that makes your life difficult. Think about ways that you may be able to overcome that obstacle.

Name _____ Date _____

Study Guide for
Helen Keller by Elizabeth MacLeod

Instructions: Write your answers in the spaces below.

1. Helen was not always deaf and blind. When did she become deaf and blind?

2. Who taught Helen to spell, read, and go to school?

3. What was Helen the first deaf and blind person to do?

4. Helen went to school. What did she do after she went to school?