

Simple Literature No. 68: Curriculum for
The Absolutely Essential Eloise

by S. Seifert

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How to Use This Curriculum

- 1.** Have students read this book for 20 to 30 minutes each day.
- 2.** When students have finished 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 *The Absolutely Essential Eloise* by Kay Thompson

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, let students read their answers from it.
3. Prompt students to write a paragraph.

SUMMARY

Six-year-old Eloise lives on the top floor of The Plaza because her mother knows the owner. Eloise spends a lot of time being a nuisance in the lobby, on the elevator, on the telephone, and to other patrons on the top floor. Eloise loves her English nanny and has her own room, a dog called Weenie, and a turtle called Skipperdee. She likes to use room service first thing in the morning and charges everything to her room. Eloise has two dolls, Sabine and Saylor, and she keeps busy. She calls the valet to clean her shoes, helps the maid change the pillowcases, goes through the trash, plays with the switchboard operators, and hops. She has lunch with Thomas, visits Bill the busboy, watches debutantes, explores the Baroque Room, helps set up the Crystal Room, and goes to the weddings in the White and gold Room. Eloise loves The Plaza and its rooms. Other rooms at The Plaza include the Oak Room, Rendezvous Room, Package Room, Men's Room, and Barber Shop. Eloise is never bored because she has an active imagination. They call her mother when she is sick, and she is always packed in case her mother wants her to visit. Eloise doesn't like school so Philip is her tutor. Every night, she orders dinner from room service and takes a bath. Eloise puts the "Don't Disturb" sign around her neck and goes to sleep. When Eloise is scared, she wakes up Nanny with a flashlight.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. Eloise does what she wants to do. How does she have time to do this? Eloise has next to no chores or friends, and she doesn't have to go to school. Philip tutors her.

naïve enough to think that the wealthy lifestyle around her is normal, as is the fact that she is not supervised by parents.
2. Most grownups do not do what Eloise does. Most children do not do what Eloise does. How can Eloise do what she does? Eloise is allowed to act like an adult at The Plaza, but she does not have any responsibilities. She can do whatever she wants, whenever she wants, because she is only 6, cute, and doesn't have to pay for anything. She lives at The Plaza, which few people do, and is
3. Eloise has a lot of fun each day. How does she have so much fun by herself? Eloise is never bored because whatever her life lacks, she makes up for by having a great imagination. Of course, being rich and connected, and perhaps being neglected by her parents, plays a big part. Her mother is mentioned but her father isn't. Nanny and the entire hotel staff seem to supervise her, but not fully.

WRITE A PARAGRAPH

Have students relate one aspect of *The Absolutely Essential Eloise* to their own lives by writing a paragraph: If you could spend one full day with Eloise at The Plaza, what would you do?

Name _____ Date _____

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Instructions: Write your answers in the spaces below.

1. Eloise does what she wants to do. How does she have time to do this?

2. Most grownups do not do what Eloise does. Most children do not do what Eloise does. How can Eloise do what she does?

3. Eloise has a lot of fun each day. How does she have so much fun by herself?