

# Guided Reading Lesson Plan (Levels M-Z)

Title: Helen Keller

Level: M

ISBN: 978-155453000-7

Publisher: Kids Can Press

Before Reading: (5-7 min.).

\*Summarize plot (M)

\*Unfamiliar book language/character names (S)

\*Discuss pictures (M)

\*Draw upon students' experiences (M)

Look at the cover. Read the title. Invite students to tell anything they know about Helen Keller.

Record together on chart or in notebooks.

What questions do you have about Helen Keller and her life?

As you read about this remarkable woman, we will see if your questions are answered.

She was born healthy, then after a serious illness, she was left blind and deaf.

What do you think her life was like growing up?

Keeping in mind this happened in the 1880's.

\*New or important words (V) p. 14 sign language, p.18 Braille, p. 11 Alexander Graham Bell

Unusual aspect of text layout (V)

Suggested Teaching Point (Behaviors to Notice and Support) or focus on a Comprehension Strategy:

*connections, questions, inferences, visualizing, summarizing, synthesizing, determining importance.*

Good readers think about (infer) what the lesson might be the author is trying to teach them.

Good readers think about how a character changes throughout the story.

During Reading: (10-15 min.)

Students silently read the text, you may choose to listen to a few whisper read the text. While students are silently reading, you can start another group or conference with students.

After Reading: (8-10 min.)

\*Discuss the story

-clarify confusion, revisiting parts of the text that posed problems for readers

-acknowledge partially correct responses, seeking to understand students' perspectives

\*Connect discussion to the teaching point and/or a comprehension strategy (see above)

After reading ask the students what they think the lessons might be the author wants the students to take away from this story.

Discuss how Helen changed throughout her life.

How did she overcome each new challenge she faced?

Did the reader make any predictions as they were reading?

Describe the problems Helen faced.

How did her family help her overcome the many obstacles she faced?

Writing Connection (optional):

If you could have met Helen Keller, write three or more questions you might have asked her. Be thorough and specific.