

1st Grade Lesson Plan
Women's History Month
Helen Keller



Wreaths Across America

Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grade: 1 st	Lesson: Helen Keller, Women's History Month

<p>OBJECTIVES: CCSSELA RL. 1.1: Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.</p> <p>CCSSELA RL. 1.3: Describe characters, settings, and major events in a story, using key details.</p> <p>CCSSELA RI 1.1: Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.</p>	<p>STRATEGIES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing/Coloring <input type="checkbox"/> Writing <input type="checkbox"/> Think/Pair/Share <input type="checkbox"/> Collaboration <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Questions <input type="checkbox"/> Small Groups <input type="checkbox"/> Large Group
MATERIALS:	Computer/laptop; internet (with access to YouTube); Smart Board; copies of the <i>I Am Helen Keller</i> Key Details Worksheet; copies of the Helen Keller Comprehension Questions; copies of the "I Can Write My Name in Braille" Activity; copies of the Helen Keller Coloring Sheet
Engage: Hook the students	Play the YouTube Video, BrainPopJr. <i>Helen Keller</i> https://youtu.be/VIBSMMgtv34 Think/Pair/Share Activity- Pair the students with a partner. Explain the T/P/S directions. The students will think of their answer, get with their partner, and share their answer. T/P/S Question: What difference can a kind teacher make in your life? How would Helen Keller's life have been different without her teachers?
Explore: Students make sense of a concept through observations.	Play the YouTube Read Aloud <i>I Am Helen Keller</i> , Author-Brad Meltzer, Illustrator-Christopher Elipoulos https://youtu.be/17wNiWrvOIM Hand out copies of <i>I Am Helen Keller</i> Key Details Worksheet. Students will answer the questions about the Key Details of the book. Hand out copies of the Helen Keller Comprehension Questions or go over the questions orally. Hand out copies of the "I Can Write My Name in Braille" Activity. Students will complete the activity. Handout the Helen Keller Coloring Sheet
Explain: Teacher introduces formal vocabulary and language to students.	deaf Sign Language autobiography blind equal rights disabilities Braille Activist
Elaborate: Students apply what they have learned.	Students will complete the worksheets and practice activities attached to this lesson plan. Students ask and answer questions about key details in a text. Students will describe characters, settings, and major events in a story, using key details.
Evaluate: assessment.	Teachers should choose which activities to use as formal/informal assessments.
Enrichment/Service-Learning Project	Students will brainstorm a project or activity that allows them to honor the memory and contributions of Helen Keller by participating in a volunteer project. See the last page for suggestions.

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I Am Helen Keller Key Details Worksheet

List 4 Character Traits of Helen Keller.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____



Helen Keller and her dog Phiz.

List and describe 4 Settings from the Book.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

List and describe 4 Major Events from the Book.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

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Helen Keller Comprehension Questions

1. Where was Helen Keller born?

2. What happened to Helen Keller that made her blind and deaf?

3. Why couldn't Helen play with her dog Belle?

4. What happened that gave Helen's parents hope for Helen?

5. How did Anne Sullivan finally teach Helen words?

6. Why did Helen have a hard time understanding what the word love meant?

7. Who taught Helen how to understand what love meant?

8. What is Braille?

9. Who helped Helen learn how to speak?

How did she help Helen learn to speak?

10. What does Helen say is the most important thing she did?

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ANSWER KEY **Helen Keller Comprehension Questions**

1. Where was Helen Keller born? **Helen Keller was born in Alabama.**
2. What happened to Helen Keller that made her blind and deaf? **When Helen was a young baby, she got very sick, the sickness left her blind and deaf.**
3. Why couldn't Helen play with her dog Belle? **Helen could not play with her dog Belle because she could not say her dog's name.**
4. What happened that gave Helen's parents hope for Helen? **Helen's mother read an article in a newspaper about another deaf and blind girl who had a teacher. Her parents decided to get a teacher for Helen.**
5. How did Anne Sullivan finally teach Helen words? **Anne put her hand underneath the water pump and signed the word water in her other hand.**
6. Why did Helen have a hard time understanding what the word love meant? **Helen associated words with things she could touch.**
7. Who taught Helen how to understand what love meant? **Helen's teacher, Anne Sullivan taught Helen what the word love meant.**
8. What is Braille? **Braille is a series of raised dots on a page, each cluster of dots spells a word.**
9. Who helped Helen learn how to speak? **A teacher named Sarah Fuller helped Helen learn how to speak.**
How did she help Helen learn to speak? **Sarah would take Helen's hand and put it over her mouth and tongue when she would say words.**
10. What does Helen say is the most important thing she did? **Helen made sure that other people with disabilities could get the same education she did.**

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I Can Write My Name in Braille

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j
⠁	⠃	⠉	⠙	⠑	⠋	⠗	⠈	⠊	⠚
k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t
⠅	⠇	⠍	⠝	⠕	⠏	⠑	⠗	⠎	⠞
u	v	x	y	z					
⠥	⠧	⠭	⠽	⠵					
W									
⠠									

Use the following to write your name using the Braille Alphabet. The letters will not be raised, but you can see the letters.

For example,

J



O



H



N



Now, write your name using the alphabet above.

⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠
⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠
⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠

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Helen Keller Coloring Sheet



Helen Keller

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Grades K-5 Action Plans

1. Draw pictures or make cards for servicemen and women overseas or veterans at a local VA Hospital or VA Home. [Operation Gratitude](#) sends over 250,000 packages to Servicemen and Women, and First Responders annually, the link above provides guidelines for participation in their program.
2. Make cards for Senior citizens in your community for the various holidays. Teachers/Parents can help their children by:
 - * contacting local nursing homes, senior centers and VA Homes to determine the procedure they have for community involvement, the numbers of residents, etc.
 - * setting up a calendar as a reminder to your child letting them know when certain holidays are coming.
 - * providing materials: crayons, paper, coloring sheets for younger students
 - * setting up a time for delivery of the cards to the facility, or help your child mail the cards at the Post Office.
3. Decorate placemats to be used for Senior citizens during the holidays with a special note or picture! Many agencies deliver meals to Seniors who have mobility problems and are on a fixed income. Teachers/Parents can help their children by:
 - * contacting local agencies that provide meals for Seniors, coordinate with the agency to provide placemats for an upcoming holiday
 - * talking with your child's teacher to see if this could be a classroom project
 - * provide materials,
4. [Donate gently used or new stuffed animals](#) to a local fire department or police station to give to children in emergencies.
5. During your birthday month, donate cake mix, frosting, candles, and an age-appropriate toy in a box. Donate items to a local food pantry or school social worker for families in need of a birthday cake. Let your child decorate the bag/box with a birthday message. Parents can help their children by:
 - * contacting a local food bank or their child's school to arrange a drop-off point
 - * purchasing the items to donate
 - * taking their child to be a part of the drop-off
6. Collect school supplies, coloring books/crayons or games to donate to local homeless shelters or local children's hospitals.
 - * contacting a local food bank or their children's hospital to arrange a drop-off point
 - * purchasing the items to donate
 - * taking their child to be a part of the drop-off
7. Make a no-sew fleece blanket for a child in need with [Project Linus](#), or a Veteran in need with [Soldiers' Angels](#). Parents can help their children by:
 - * log on to the Project Linus or Soldiers' Angels to check out the specifications for the blankets,
 - * help their child purchase materials
 - * help their child make the blanket if necessary
 - * take their child to ship or deliver the blanket