

HELEN KELLER

A. PRE-READING:

ACTIVITY – 1

Look at the pictures below. Fill in the gaps.



(Picture 1)



(Picture 2)



(Picture 3)

Fill in the blanks.

- i) The man cannot _____ . (Picture 1)
- ii) The man cannot _____ properly. (Picture 2)
- iii) The boy cannot _____ . (Picture 3)



Now let's read a story about a little girl who could not see, hear and speak. Isn't it interesting to know about her education? Won't you be interested to know more about her childhood days?

ACTIVITY - 2

Read the lesson aloud and ask the pupils to listen to you with their books closed. Read it again and ask them to follow it in the book while you read.

B. READING:

It was the summer of 1880. A healthy baby girl was born in a small town in Alabama. Her parents loved her dearly and named her Helen Keller. But one day, the baby became ill and day after day, her fever stayed high. Everyone in the family tried to help her to get better, but all they could say was, "There is nothing more we can do. The baby may not live."

Helen lived. But she was not the same after her illness. "Something is very wrong," her mother said. At last they found out what was wrong. The child could not see or hear.

The baby grew into a little girl. Her parents felt sorry for her. Helen often cried and held on to her mother. "Give the poor child what she wants," her father would say.

Though Helen could not hear or see, she was a bright little girl. Some people thought Helen could not learn anything. Her mother did not agree. "Helen is very smart," she said and added, "the problem is, how can we reach her? She is locked up inside herself."

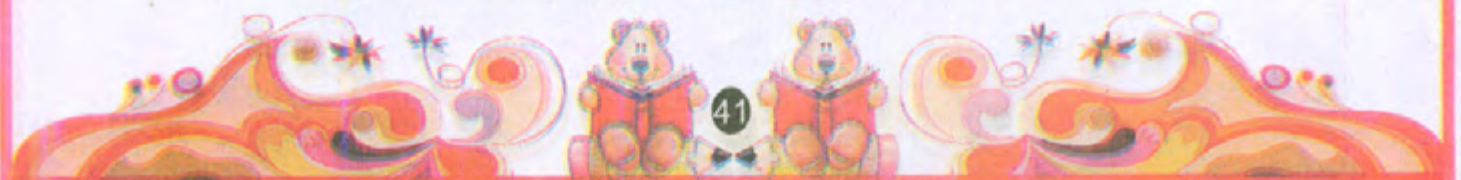
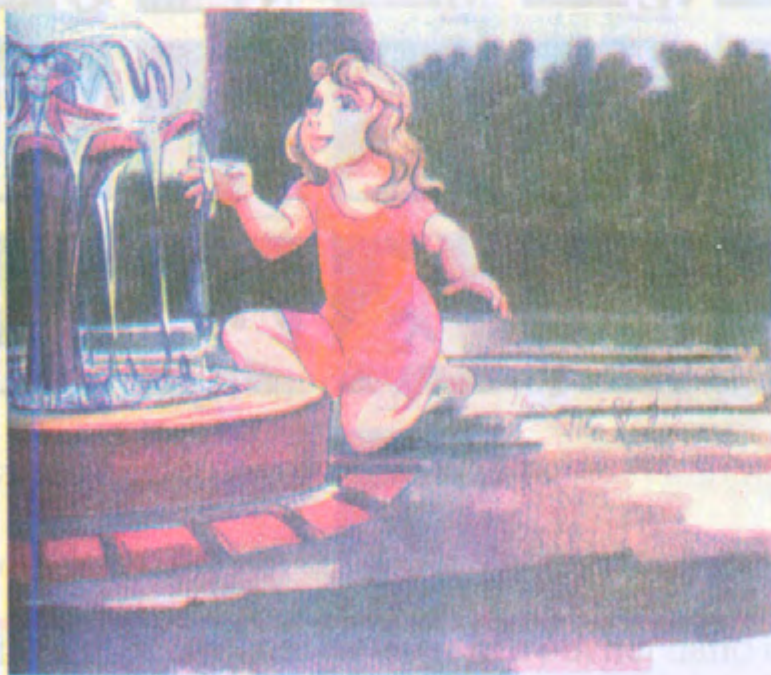


Helen began to grow wild. She would not let anyone comb her hair. Her dresses were always dirty. She was often angry. Sometimes she even lay on the floor and kicked her feet.

Her parents thought that they should find a teacher for her. Miss Sullivan, a young teacher agreed to help Helen learn to see the world. Miss Sullivan gave Helen a doll. "D_O_L_L" spells doll. She spelt the word with her fingers into Helen's hand. She made the letter with special hand signs.



Helen copied her teacher and spelt D_O_L_L too. But she did not understand what she was doing. Helen liked Miss Sullivan. She was strict but kind. She spelt a lot of words for Helen, on her hand, day and night, to make Helen understand.



One day, her teacher made Helen put her hand into running water. Then, she spelt W_A_T_E_R meaning something wet, running over her hand. She understood that words were the most important things in the world. Words would tell her everything she wanted to know.



ACTIVITY - 3

Let's read and find facts

A. Answer the following questions.

i) Where was Helen Keller born ?

ii) What happened to her one day ?

iii) What was wrong with Helen after her illness ?

iv) What did Helen's mother say about her daughter ?

v) Her parents felt that they should find a _____ for Helen.

a) teacher b) doctor c) care taker

vi) Sullivan was a _____ .(doctor/teacher/dancer)

(Put the correct word in the blank)

B. Read the lesson and say whether the following statements are **True** or **False**.

i) Helen Keller was born in a village.

ii) She was a bright little girl though she could not hear or see.

iii) She would not let anyone comb her hair.

iv) Sullivan was strict but kind.

v) One day Sullivan made Helen not to put her hand into running water.



ACTIVITY - 4

Let's read and understand :

Match the statements given in column A with column B. Draw an arrow mark to match them. The first one has been done for you.

Column - A

- i) Helen is very smart.
- ii) There is nothing more we can do.
- iii) Something is very wrong.
- iv) Give the poor child what she wants.
- v) She is locked up inside herself.
- vi) The baby may not live.

Column - B

- Helen's father
- Everyone in the family
- Helen's mother
- All the family members
- Helen's mother
- Helen's mother

ACTIVITY - 5

Let's talk

Form a group of three and practise the following conversation.

Father : (With a worried look) What can we do now ? Helen is running a high temperature. We have all been trying to help her get better.

Family Member : There's nothing more we can do. The baby may not live.

Mother : She's not the same after her illness. Something is very wrong with her. But I think she cannot see or hear.

Father : Oh dear ! Give the poor child what she wants.

Mother : She is very smart. But how can we teach her ? I'm sure she is locked up inside herself. She doesn't let anyone comb her hair. She often gets angry.

Father : I've an idea. We should find a teacher for her. What do you think ?



Mother : That's really a good idea. A teacher will help her learn to see the world. Thanks for your idea.

ACTIVITY - 6

Let's read between the lines

A. One word in each line is missing. Fill in the missing words choosing from the box.

wild, dearly, bright, often, inside, agreed, stayed

Helen's parents loved her _____.

One day she fell ill and her fever _____ high.

She was a _____ little girl.

She was locked up _____ herself.

She began to grow _____.

She was _____ angry.

A young teacher _____ to help her.



ACTIVITY - 7

Let's write

Given below is a paragraph describing the childhood days of Helen Keller. In the paragraph there are some blanks. Fill in the blanks with the words given at the bottom to make the paragraph meaningful.

Helen was a _____ baby girl. She was born in a _____ town in Albama. One day she became _____. She got over her illness. But something was _____ with her. The baby grew into a bright _____ girl. Her parents felt _____ for her. She began to grow wild. Her clothes were always _____. She was often

..... A teacher agreed to help her learn to see the world. She taught her the letters with hand signs. Helen understood that the words were the most things in the world.

Important, healthy, little, dirty, kind, angry, wrong, ill, sorry, small

ACTIVITY – 8

Match the two parts of the sentences given under column 'A' and 'B'. Add 'but' to join the two parts and write the complete sentences.

Column A

- i) Helen lived after her illness
- ii) People thought that she could not learn anything
- iii) Helen copied the words
- v) Miss Sullivan was strict

Column B

- a) her mother thought she could learn.
- b) she did not understand what she was doing.
- c) she could not hear or see.
- d) she was kind to Helen.

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ACTIVITY - 9

The following sentences tell us something about Helen.

For example :

- a) Helen's dresses were always dirty.
- b) She was often angry.
- c) Sometimes she lay on the floor.
- d) Her parents never scolded her.

Now a friend of yours asks you the following questions. Put a tick mark under the right column in answer to the questions.

Questions	Always	Often	Sometimes	Never
How often do you				
a) obey your parents ?				
b) fight with your brother or sister ?				
c) help others ?				
d) throw waste in the dustbin ?				
e) switch off the lights when you go out of the room ?				
f) tear pages from your notebook ?				
g) quarrel with your neighbours ?				
h) behave badly with others ?				



ACTIVITY - 10.

Let's speak

Read the words below. They have been written as they are read. But in each word one letter is missing. Add that letter and rewrite the word looking at the picture given against each.

One has been done for you.

com

comb



lam



pam



wak



nife



B. i) Look at the hand signs given at the end of the lesson. Using sign language make these letters with your hand.

'C' 'H' 'E' 'K'

ii) Spell these words through hand signs.

a) Helen

b) Was

ACTIVITY - 11

Let's sing this song together to solve this riddle

Pretty peep

Who is pretty peep ?

I have a little sister,

They call her pretty peep;

She waded in the waters

Deep, deep, deep;

She climbs up the mountains

High, high, high;

My Pretty little sister,

She has just one eye.

