

**A.W. James Elementary
School**

Science & Social St.

Independent Learning
Packets

Grade 3

Student Name _____

HELEN KELLER

http://www.famouspeoplelessons.com/h/helen_keller.html

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THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

Helen Adams Keller was an American author, activist and lecturer. She was the first American deaf and blind person to graduate from college. From an early age she decided to communicate with the world, despite her barriers to communication. She became a prolific author, anti-war campaigner and spokeswoman for women's and worker's rights. She is also an inspiration to millions.

Helen Keller was born in Alabama in 1880. When she was nineteen months old, she contracted a mysterious illness that left her deaf and blind. She developed a friendship with the daughter of her family's cook, who created a sign language with her. By the age of seven, Helen was using over 60 signs with her family. She knew she could communicate.

In 1886, her mother read Charles Dickens' book 'American Notes' about the successful education of a deaf and blind child. She decided to seek help for Helen and was put in touch with 20-year-old teacher Anne Sullivan. She became Helen's instructor and friend for the next 49 years. Helen learnt Braille and used it to learn French, German and Greek.

Keller had great ambitions and went on to become a world-famous speaker and author. She campaigned for people with disabilities, among many other causes. She travelled to 39 countries and was friends with US presidents and famous figures, including Charlie Chaplin, and Mark Twain. Keller also wrote twelve books and many articles on social issues. Keller died in her sleep in 1968, aged 87.

247 words
Flesch Kinkaid 8.5

SYNONYM MATCH: Match the words from the article on the left with their synonyms on the right. Are your answers the same as other students'?

Paragraphs 1 and 2

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| 1. author | a. got |
| 2. barriers | b. guiding light |
| 3. inspiration | c. get her message across |
| 4. contracted | d. formed |
| 5. developed | e. writer |
| 6. communicate | f. obstacles |

Paragraphs 3 and 4

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 7. successful | g. in contact |
| 8. seek | h. fought |
| 9. in touch | i. effective |
| 10. campaigned | j. people |
| 11. figures | k. passed away |
| 12. died | l. look for |

PHRASE MATCH: Match the following phrases from the article.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. barriers | a. with disabilities |
| 2. She is also an inspiration | b. illness |
| 3. she contracted a mysterious | c. a friendship |
| 4. She developed | d. to learn French |
| 5. Helen was using over 60 | e. in her sleep |
| 6. She decided to seek | f. signs with her family |
| 7. Helen learnt Braille and used it | g. to communication |
| 8. She campaigned for people | h. to millions |
| 9. famous | i. help for Helen |
| 10. Keller died | j. figures |

LISTENING GAP FILL:

Helen Adams Keller was an American author, _____. She was the first American deaf and blind person to graduate from college. From _____ she decided to communicate with the world, despite her barriers to communication. She became a prolific _____ campaigner and spokeswoman for women's and worker's rights. She is also _____ millions.

Helen Keller was born in Alabama in 1880. When she was nineteen months old, _____ mysterious illness _____ deaf and blind. She developed a friendship with the daughter of her family's cook, who _____ language with her. By the age of seven, Helen was _____ signs with her family. She knew she could communicate.

In 1886, _____ Charles Dickens' book 'American Notes' about the successful education of a deaf and blind child. She decided _____ Helen and was _____ teacher Anne Sullivan. She became Helen's instructor and friend for the next 49 years. Helen learnt Braille _____ French, German and Greek.

Keller _____ and went on to become a world-famous speaker and author. She campaigned for people _____ many other causes. She travelled to 39 countries and was friends with US presidents _____, including Charlie Chaplin, and Mark Twain. Keller also wrote twelve books and many articles on social issues. Keller _____ 1968, aged 87.

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD:

Delete the wrong word in each of the pairs in italics.

Helen Adams Keller was an American author, *activism / activist* and lecturer. She was the first American deaf and blind *person / people* to graduate from college. From an early *era / age* she decided to communicate with the world, despite her barriers to communication. She became a prolific author, anti-war campaigner and spokeswoman for women's and worker's rights. She is also an *inspiring / inspiration* to millions.

Helen Keller was born in Alabama in 1880. When she was nineteen months old, she *contacted / contracted* a mysterious illness that *left / right* her deaf and blind. She developed a friendship *for / with* the daughter of her family's cook, who created a sign language with her. By the age of seven, Helen was *used / using* over 60 signs with her family. She knew she could communicate.

In 1886, her mother *reading / read* Charles Dickens' book 'American Notes' about the successful education of a deaf and blind child. She decided to *hide / seek* help for Helen and was put *in / on* touch with 20-year-old teacher Anne Sullivan. She became Helen's instructor and friend for the next 49 years. Helen learnt Braille and *used to / used* it to learn French, German and Greek.

Keller had great *ambitions / ambitious* and went on to become a world-famous speaker and author. She campaigned for people *by / with* disabilities, among many other *caused / causes*. She travelled to 39 countries and was friends with US presidents and famous figures, including Charlie Chaplin, and Mark Twain. Keller also wrote twelve books and many articles on social issues. Keller died in her *sleeping / sleep* in 1968, aged 87.

SPELLING:

These jumbled words are from the text. Spell them correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. deaf and lbndi person
2. her earrirbs to communication
3. She became a fciploir author
4. an inspiration to smoilnil

Paragraph 2

5. she contracted a mysterious nlilsse
6. She eedolvdpe a friendship
7. created a sign uglнгеaa
8. Helen was gisun over 60 signs with her family

Paragraph 3

9. the successful identouac of a deaf and blind child
10. She ediecdd to seek help
11. She became Helen's tuitrsrco and friend
12. Helen learnt laeilBr

Paragraph 4

13. Keller had great omitibnas
14. people with ileaistidibs
15. friends with US nitseprdes
16. articles on social sussej

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () Keller had great ambitions and went on to become a world-famous speaker and author. She campaigned
- () person to graduate from college. From an early age she decided to communicate with the world, despite her barriers
- () a sign language with her. By the age of seven, Helen was using over 60 signs with her family. She knew she could communicate.
- () blind child. She decided to seek help for Helen and was put in touch with 20-year-old teacher Anne Sullivan. She
- () illness that left her deaf and blind. She developed a friendship with the daughter of her family's cook, who created
- () became Helen's instructor and friend for the next 49 years. Helen learnt Braille and used
- () it to learn French, German and Greek.
- (**1**) Helen Adams Keller was an American author, activist and lecturer. She was the first American deaf and blind
- () In 1886, her mother read Charles Dickens' book 'American Notes' about the successful education of a deaf and
- () presidents and famous figures, including Charlie Chaplin, and Mark Twain. Keller also wrote twelve books and
- () to communication. She became a prolific author, anti-war campaigner and spokeswoman for
- () many articles on social issues. Keller died in her sleep in 1968, aged 87.
- () Helen Keller was born in Alabama in 1880. When she was nineteen months old, she contracted a mysterious
- () women's and worker's rights. She is also an inspiration to millions.
- () for people with disabilities, among many other causes. She travelled to 39 countries and was friends with US

SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

With your partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. American to deaf graduate and the blind first person

2. a She prolific became author

3. an to She also inspiration millions is

4. illness and that blind left a her mysterious deaf

5. over family 60 Helen signs was with using her

6. education blind of child a the deaf successful and

7. instructor Helen's became She friend and

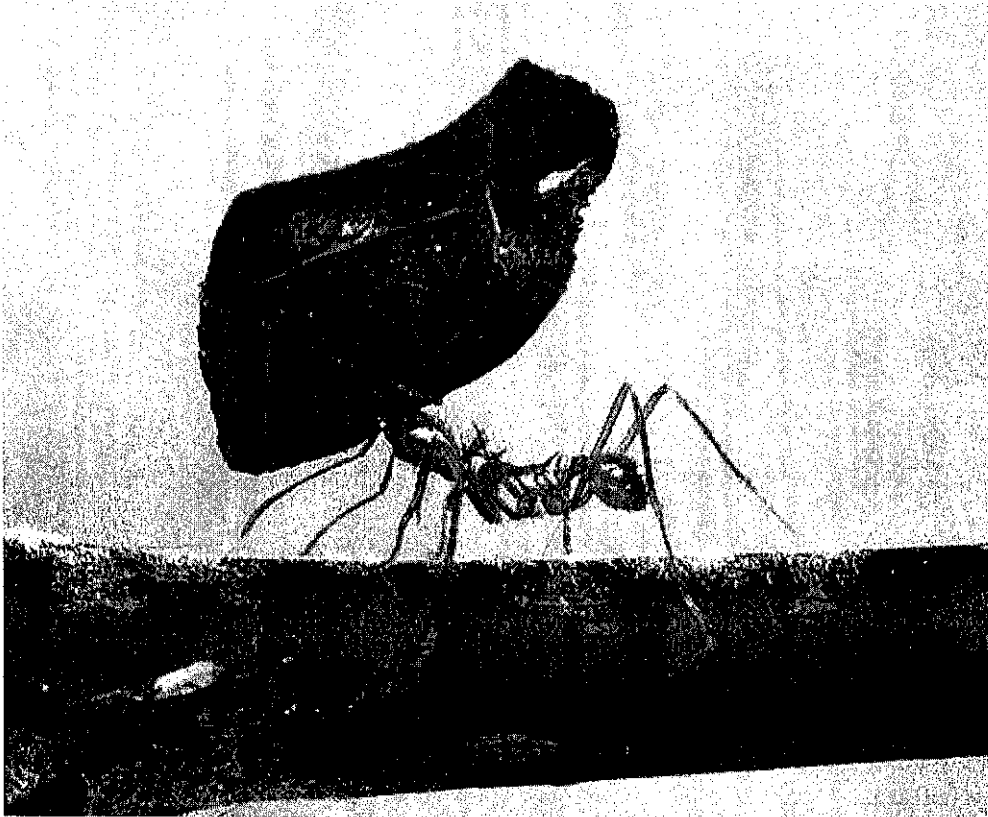
8. Helen it learnt to Braille learn and French used

9. campaigned She disabilities with people for

10. in in aged died sleep , Keller her 1968 87

A Little about Ants

by Mimi Jorling



leaf-cutting ant

There are lots of different kinds of ants: carpenter ants, leaf-cutter ants, sweet ants, fire ants, and many more. They are different colors, too. They can be red, or brown, or black. Some are very, very small, and some are rather big. Whatever their differences, though, all ants are social creatures. They live in large groups called colonies. Some ant colonies are big and have millions of ants. There are different types of ants in the colony, and they each have different jobs. The queen lays eggs. Soldier ants protect the queen and the colony. They also gather food and attack other colonies if they need new nesting space. Worker ants take care of babies, look for food, and build ant homes (anthills or mounds). Soldier and worker ants are female. Male ants' only job is to mate with the queen in order to produce eggs, which hatch into baby ants.

Ants are busy little insects. It's easy to see them moving quickly here and there. Sometimes you can see them carrying a small piece of something, or dragging part of a leaf somewhere. Sometimes you even see two ants helping each other carry the same crumb. But where are they going and what are they doing? Ants may seem to be just running around, but they are

actually important parts of their ecosystem, their world under our feet.

One thing ants do to help their ecosystem is to keep soil healthy. By constantly digging through the soil, they create spaces in it. Soil needs space inside it for air and water. Without air and water in soil, the tiny creatures that live in soil would not survive.

Ants also help bring nutrients to soil. When they bring food particles to their nests, they add nutrients to soil because they don't eat everything they bring. Their leftovers stay in the soil and break down into nutrients for other creatures living in the soil.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. According to the text, what are social creatures that live in large groups called colonies?

- A. ants
- B. flies
- C. grasshoppers
- D. beetles

2. What does the author describe in the first paragraph?

- A. the importance of ants to their ecosystem
- B. the ways in which ants keep soil healthy
- C. the food that ants bring to their nests
- D. the jobs done by ants in a colony

3. Ants are busy insects. What evidence in the text supports this conclusion?

- A. Ants move quickly from one place to another.
- B. Male ants' only job is to mate with the queen.
- C. Some ants are very, very small, and some are rather big.
- D. Ants can be red, or brown, or black.

4. Read these sentences from the text.

"Ants may seem to be just running around, but they are actually important parts of their ecosystem, their world under our feet.

"One thing ants do to help their ecosystem is to keep soil healthy. By constantly digging through the soil, they create spaces in it."

Based on this information, what can you conclude about where the ecosystem of an ant is?

- A. The ecosystem of an ant is in the ocean.
- B. The ecosystem of an ant is in the air.
- C. The ecosystem of an ant is in the soil.
- D. The ecosystem of an ant is in the desert.

5. What is a main idea of this text?

- A. Ants can be red, brown, or black.
- B. Ants are important parts of their ecosystem.
- C. Soil needs space inside it for air and water.
- D. Sometimes two ants help each other carry the same crumb.

6. Read these sentences from the text.

"Whatever their differences, though, all ants are social creatures. They live in large groups called colonies. Some ant colonies are big and have millions of ants."

What does the author probably mean by writing that ants are "social" creatures?

- A. Ants are creatures that help their ecosystem.
- B. Ants are creatures that like to spend time with their friends and family.
- C. Ants are creatures that work hard and carry things.
- D. Ants are creatures that live together in groups.

7. Read this sentence from the text.

"There are lots of different kinds of ants: carpenter ants, leaf-cutter ants, sweet ants, fire ants, and many more."

How could this sentence be rewritten without changing its meaning?

- A. There are lots of different kinds of ants, including carpenter ants, leaf-cutter ants, sweet ants, fire ants, and many more.
- B. There are lots of different kinds of ants, instead carpenter ants, leaf-cutter ants, sweet ants, fire ants, and many more.
- C. There are lots of different kinds of ants, finally carpenter ants, leaf-cutter ants, sweet ants, fire ants, and many more.
- D. There are lots of different kinds of ants, next carpenter ants, leaf-cutter ants, sweet ants, fire ants, and many more.

8. What do worker ants do? Include three pieces of information from the text in your answer.

9. Explain how ants help bring nutrients to the soil. Support your answer with evidence from the text.

10. Explain how worker ants help their ecosystem. Support your answer with evidence from the text.