

## Important Supporting Details: Helen Keller

In an informational text, good writers develop the ideas. They do this by:

- sharing facts and details about the topic
- giving examples to explain an idea

**Directions:** Read the text. As you read, think about the most important details about the topic.

Have you ever known a person as courageous as Helen Keller? Helen Keller is a well-known author and speaker. Helen Keller showed courage as she managed her disabilities. She touched many people's lives.

Helen Keller was born a healthy child in 1880. When she was almost two years old, Helen became very sick. After she got well, her parents discovered that she could no longer see or hear. She was so young when she became sick that she had not yet learned to talk. Because she could not hear or see, Helen did not learn to speak until she was an adult.

Her parents learned about new ways to teach students with a disability. Anne Sullivan became Helen's teacher. She taught her sign language, which is a way to spell out letters using hand signs. Helen became very good at sign language and went on to be an excellent student. She graduated from college. She was the first deaf and blind person to earn an arts degree at Radcliffe College.

In her lifetime, Helen Keller raised money for the blind. She wrote books and spoke to many people. She created an organization that researches issues that affect deaf and blind people. She is honored for her generous spirit and her courage in coping with being blind and deaf.



**Hellen Keller and her teacher,  
Anne Sullivan, in 1888**

**Directions:** Choose the three most important details from the text that support the main idea. Write them in the boxes below. Be sure to write the details in your own words!

**Main Idea:** Helen Keller is famous for helping other people overcome their disabilities after she overcame her own.