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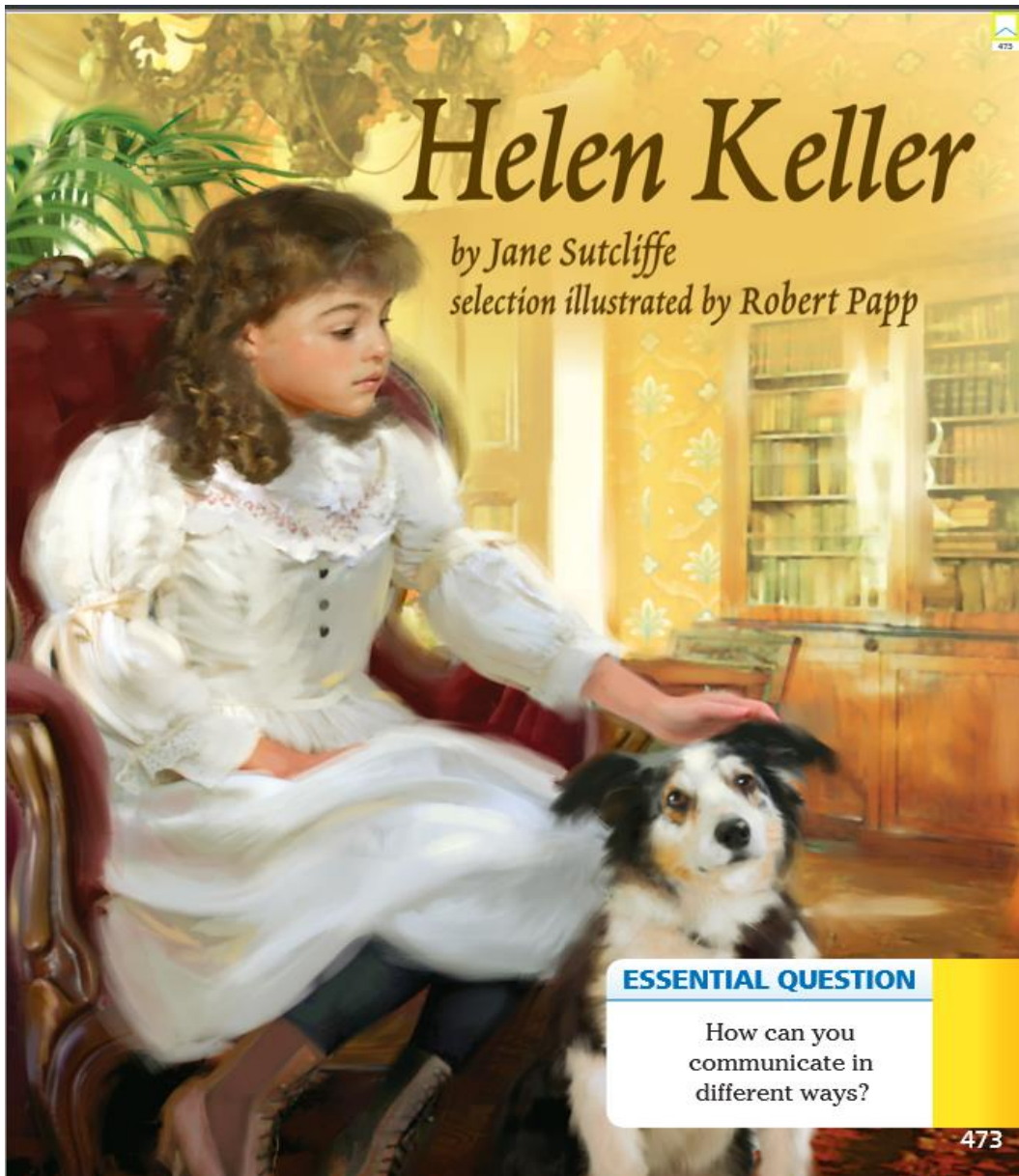
Teacher: Mrs. Amanda Daou

Class: Grade 2 A,B,C

Subject: English Language Arts

Date: Summer-2020

Content: Week 2- Summer Work



Tuscumbia, Alabama 1886

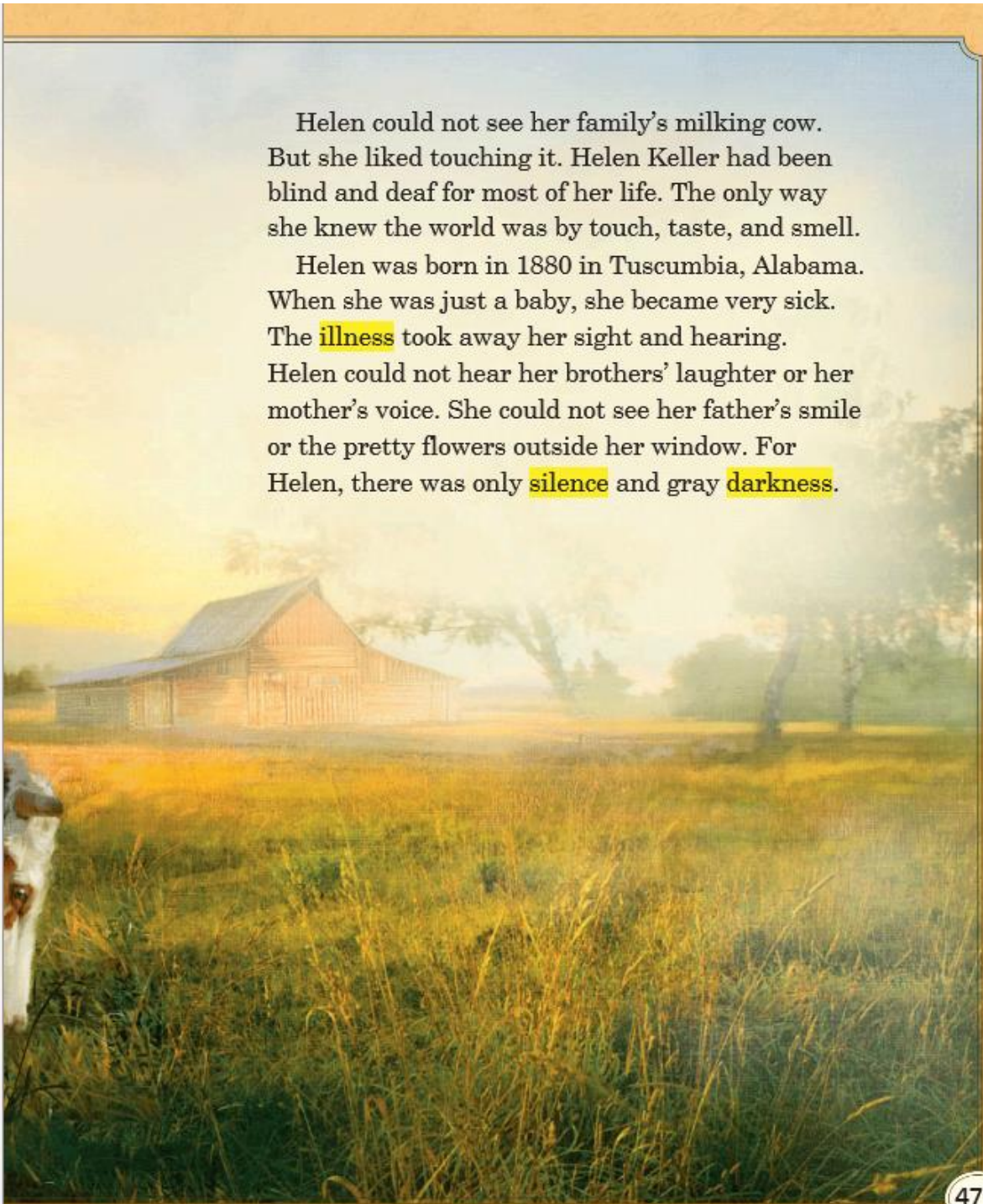


Helen Keller reached out. She touched warm, coarse hair. Her busy fingers moved farther down. They felt something smooth and wet. Slap! A hairy tail smacked into Helen's face.



Helen could not see her family's milking cow. But she liked touching it. Helen Keller had been blind and deaf for most of her life. The only way she knew the world was by touch, taste, and smell.

Helen was born in 1880 in Tuscumbia, Alabama. When she was just a baby, she became very sick. The **illness** took away her sight and hearing. Helen could not hear her brothers' laughter or her mother's voice. She could not see her father's smile or the pretty flowers outside her window. For Helen, there was only **silence** and gray **darkness**.



To learn to speak, children need to hear words. But Helen could not hear anything. So she could not speak. Instead, she made motions. When she wanted her mother, she put her hand against her face. When she wanted her father, she made the **motion** of putting on a pair of glasses. When she was hungry, she pretended to slice and butter bread.

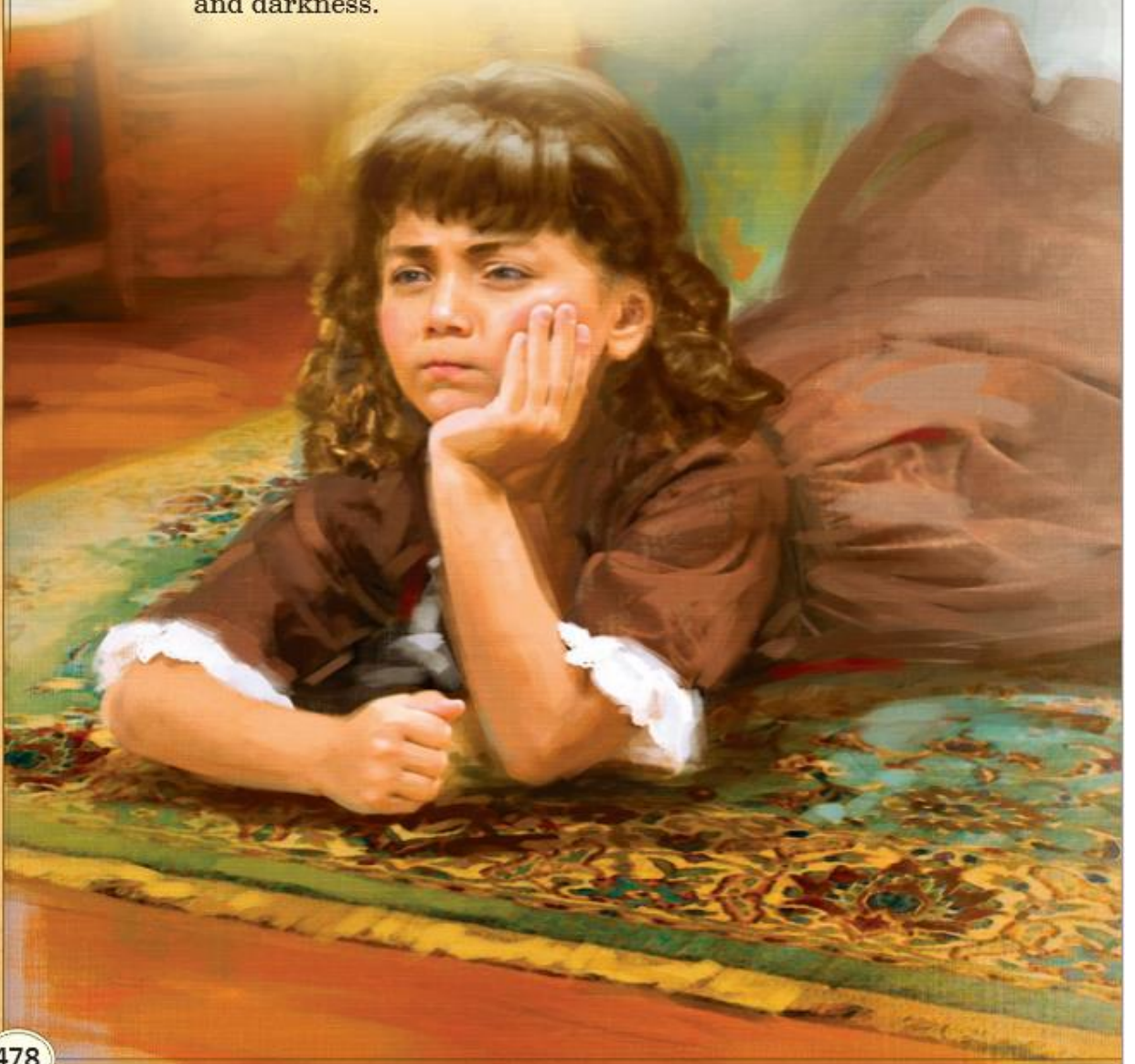




Helen Keller

Helen knew she was different from the rest of her family. They moved their lips when they wanted things. Sometimes Helen stood between two people as they talked. She held her hands to their lips. Then she tried moving her own lips. But still no one understood her.

That made Helen angry. Sometimes she screamed and cried and kicked for hours. She threw things and hit people. But it didn't change anything. She was still alone in silence and darkness.



Helen was hard to control. Her parents didn't know how to help her. They took her to doctors. None of the doctors could help Helen see or hear again. When Helen was six, a doctor suggested the Kellers visit Alexander Graham Bell. Dr. Bell was famous for inventing the telephone. He also taught deaf people.



Alexander Graham Bell

Dr. Bell told the Kellers to write to Michael Anagnos in Boston. Mr. Anagnos was the head of the Perkins Institution for the Blind. He believed Helen could learn how to let out the thoughts locked inside her. Mr. Anagnos promised to send Helen a teacher.



Michael Anagnos

Helen and Teacher

March 1887

Helen's teacher came to live with the Kellers that spring. Her name was Annie Sullivan. Annie had studied at the Perkins School. She was nearly blind herself. Annie needed to control Helen's wild **behavior** so she could teach her. But Helen did not understand that Annie wanted to help her. For two weeks, Helen fought with Annie. She hit Annie and knocked out one of her front teeth. She even locked Annie in an upstairs room.

Mr. Keller had to get a ladder and let Annie out through a window.



Annie Sullivan

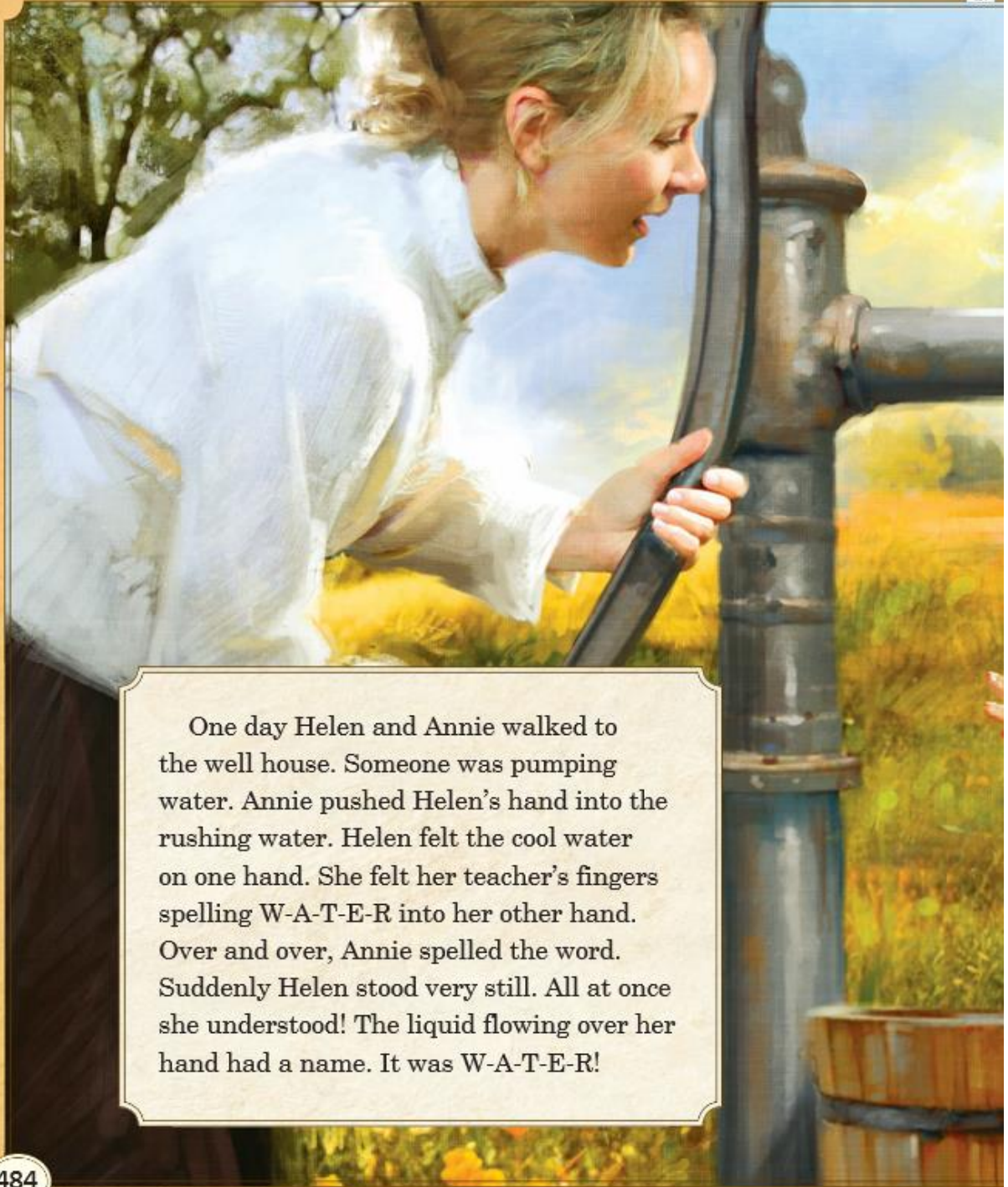
Still, Annie did not give up. Little by little, Helen learned to trust her new teacher. Annie began to teach Helen about words. She spelled words using her fingers. Her hand formed a different shape for each letter. She pressed each shape into Helen's hand. When she gave Helen some cake, she spelled C-A-K-E into Helen's palm. When Helen held her doll, Annie spelled D-O-L-L for Helen. Helen **imitated** the shapes. She thought it was a game. She didn't know that the shapes spelled words.

After a month, Helen could spell whatever Annie spelled. But Helen still did not know that she was naming the things she touched.





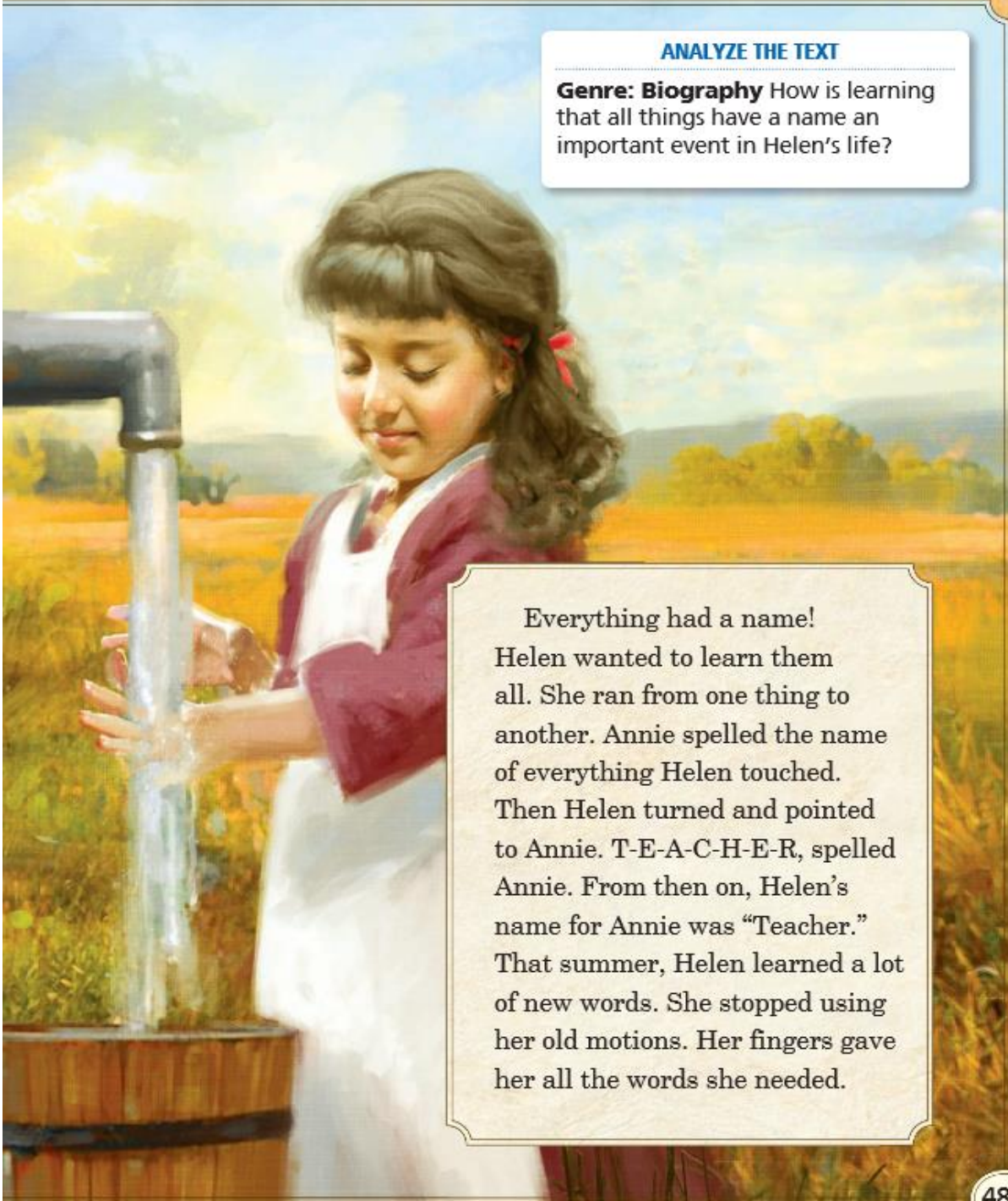
Annie finger spelling into Helen's hand



One day Helen and Annie walked to the well house. Someone was pumping water. Annie pushed Helen's hand into the rushing water. Helen felt the cool water on one hand. She felt her teacher's fingers spelling W-A-T-E-R into her other hand. Over and over, Annie spelled the word. Suddenly Helen stood very still. All at once she understood! The liquid flowing over her hand had a name. It was W-A-T-E-R!

ANALYZE THE TEXT

Genre: Biography How is learning that all things have a name an important event in Helen's life?



Everything had a name!
Helen wanted to learn them all. She ran from one thing to another. Annie spelled the name of everything Helen touched. Then Helen turned and pointed to Annie. T-E-A-C-H-E-R, spelled Annie. From then on, Helen's name for Annie was "Teacher." That summer, Helen learned a lot of new words. She stopped using her old motions. Her fingers gave her all the words she needed.

Annie did not teach Helen words one at a time. She talked to her in full sentences. That way, Helen learned more than just new words. She learned new ideas. Helen and Annie took long walks through the woods and along the river. Annie gave Helen lessons on the walks. She showed Helen how seeds sprout and plants grow. She made mountains out of mud and taught Helen about volcanoes. Sometimes they climbed a tree and had a lesson there.



Helen and Annie having a lesson





Helen also learned to write. She wrote letters to her family and Dr. Bell. She wrote many letters to Mr. Anagnos in Boston. Mr. Anagnos was amazed by how much Helen had learned. He published some of Helen's letters. Reporters began to write about Helen. Soon she was famous. People all over the world wanted to know about the miracle girl. And Helen wanted to know all about the world.

