

Approximate time: 20 minutes

What you need: A copy of the "Heavenly Father Loves Me" activity (artwork included with this lesson), small nail or pin, various objects such as; a book, a flower, water, a piece of fruit, a toy, etc.

Preparation

1. Print out the artwork.

2. Poke a hole with nail or pin through the back side of each black braille dot.

Activity:

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1. Explain: Everything on earth that is good comes from God. (Moroni 7:12) Because Helen Keller was deaf and blind she had to experience Heavenly Father's glorious creations through touch (or feeling) and smell. (Have children close their eyes and try to guess what the objects are through touch, smell and taste.)

2. Ask: Imagine that you couldn't see the words in the scriptures and other books or songs. Imagine that you can't even hear them spoken. How could you read or write? (Braille.)

3. Explain: Braille (show braille chart), an alphabet of raised dots was inspired by Heavenly Father so the blind could read. The scriptures, church magazines and church song books are available in braille.

4. Show the pages of the song, "My Heavenly Father Loves Me," with words, pictures and braille. Ask: What are the different ways we can learn this primary song? (Through pictures, printed word and braille.) Have children close their eyes and touch the braille.

5. Sing: Children's Songbook #228, "My Heavenly Father Loves Me," verse 1.

6. Ask: Helen Keller was blessed with three wonderful senses. What senses have we been blessed with to experience Heavenly Father's creations? (Sight, hearing, smell, taste and touch.) Point to each picture of the song and ask what are the different senses that Heavenly Father has given us that we can use to enjoy this creation. Example: Whenever I feel the rain on my face: Sight, hearing, smell, taste and touch.

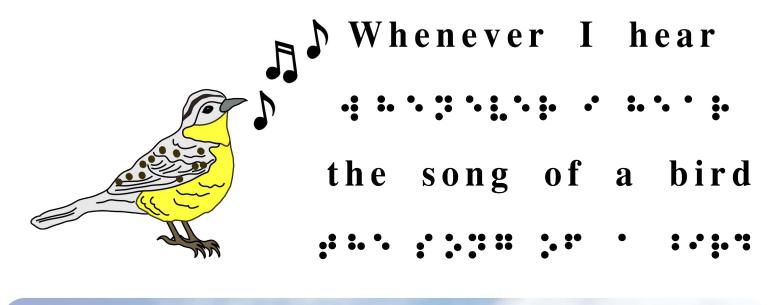
7. Sing: Children's Songbook #228, "My Heavenly Father Loves Me," verse 2.

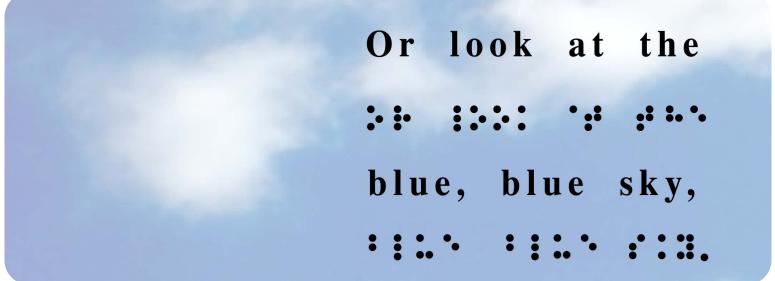
8. Explain: We should all be grateful for what Heavenly Father has given us. Helen Keller loved life in spite of her disabilities and she knew Heavenly Father loved her.

"I thank God for my handicaps, for through them, I have found myself, my work, and my God." Helen Keller

9. Bear your testimony and express your gratitude for this beautiful world and all with which Heavenly Father has blessed you.

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