



Little People, BIG DREAMS®

I Can Discover the World



Frances Lincoln

Little People, BIG DREAMS®

I Can Discover the World



Helen Keller



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Frances Lincoln Children’s Books, an imprint of The Quarto Group.
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These Happy Readers stories are taken from the Little People, Big Dreams series of books.

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Made for McDonald’s 2024

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You're about to meet
one of the world's greatest
campaigners and authors. Helen had
hopes, fears, joys and challenges –
and her own unique dream.

Her story shows that if you follow
your own dream and believe in
yourself, you can do anything!



Little People, BIG DREAMS®

I Can Discover
the World
HELEN KELLER



Written by
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Sam Rudd



Once, a baby named Helen was born in the USA. From the very beginning, she was eager to learn.





Helen was only 19 months old when she got a terrible illness. There was no medicine available to treat her fever, and it left her deaf and blind.



She had to get used to living in a world where she could not see or hear anything.



By the time she was six,
Helen had created more than
60 signs to communicate.





Still, there were many thoughts that she was not able to share with others... It was so frustrating that she often screamed and kicked until she broke down in tears.



Her family contacted a school for the blind, who sent a bright student named Anne Sullivan. She did not just become Helen's teacher, but her lifelong friend.



The day after they met, Anne gave Helen a doll, and spelled the letters into her hand: 'd-o-l-l'. Helen repeated it with her fingers, without knowing she was spelling a word.





After weeks of spelling words in her hand,
Helen understood that words were
connected to things, and that everything
had a name. Now she could talk to others!



Soon she was reading books in braille, a system that uses tiny bumps on paper to spell words. Later, she learned how to speak, too.





Helen became the first deafblind person to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree, and the first to write a book about her life.



She and Anne travelled the country and all around the world, sharing Helen's story.





She wrote many other books and hundreds of great speeches. Thanks to her, many schools for the deaf and the blind were set up.

Helen gave disabled people a voice,
and also fought for the rights of women
and African-American people.





And, while meeting every obstacle
in her way, little Helen learned...



... that everything she had been looking for was already within her.

Glossary

Communicate – to make yourself understood, or share information, news, or ideas

Deafblind – somebody who has lost much or all of their hearing and sight

Bachelor of Arts degree – a certificate given to a student at the end of a university course

Disabled – every body is different. Sometimes things are not made for how our bodies work and people may choose to have extra support to engage in our shared world

Little People, BIG DREAMS®

I Can Discover **the World**

Discover the lives of outstanding people,
from designers and artists to scientists.
All of them achieved incredible things, yet
each began life as a child with a dream.

After falling ill during childhood,
Helen became deaf and blind. She went
on to earn a university degree, write books
and tour the world campaigning for
the rights of disabled people.

www.littlepeoplebigdreams.com

