



Alabama Public Television Education

## Helen Keller: World Traveler and Representative for the American Foundation for the Overseas Blind

Helen Keller was internationally known for her work for the American Foundation for the Overseas Blind, a sister organization of the American Foundation for the Blind. She worked all over the world to protect the rights of the physically handicapped. With the assistance of her teacher Anne Sullivan and companion Polly Thomson, she traveled to 39 countries throughout her lifetime to help others understand about those who were [differently abled](#).

### Directions

Using the list of countries and dates below and a blank world map, create a map key to identify each country that Helen Keller visited. You will want to choose a different color or symbol for those countries that she visited one time, two times, three times, four times, or five times. Google Earth can also be used for this activity.

Australia: 1948

Brazil: 1953

Burma (now called Myanmar): 1955

Canada: 1901, 1957 (she travelled to Nova Scotia in 1901)

Chile: 1953

China: Manchuria in 1937, and Hong Kong in 1955

Denmark: 1957

Egypt: 1952  
Finland: 1957  
France: 1931, 1946, 1950, 1952  
Germany: 1956  
Great Britain: 1930, 1932, 1946, 1951, 1953  
Greece: 1946  
Iceland: 1957  
India: 1955  
Indonesia: 1955  
Ireland: 1930  
Israel: 1952  
Italy: 1946, 1956  
Japan: 1937, 1948, 1955  
Jordan: 1952  
Korea: 1948  
Lebanon: 1952  
Mexico: 1953  
New Zealand: 1948  
Norway: 1957  
Pakistan: 1955  
Panama: 1953  
Peru: 1953  
Philippines: 1948, 1953  
Portugal: 1956  
Scotland: 1932, 1934, 1955  
South Africa: 1951  
Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe): 1951  
Spain: 1956  
Sweden: 1957  
Switzerland: 1957  
Syria: 1952  
Yugoslavia: 1931

Source: [Helen Keller Museum](#)

After completing your map, answer the following questions:

1. Why do you think that Helen Keller visited some countries multiple times?
2. Are there any countries or areas of the world that she never visited? Why do you think that her travels were prohibited in some countries or areas of the world?