

**Level 4-5**  
**A Little Princess**

**Workbook**

**Teacher's Guide & Answer Key**

# Teacher's Guide

## A. Summary

### 1. Book Summary

Sara Crewe was born in India. Her mother had died, and her father, Captain Ralph Crewe, was rich. He took Sara to England to attend a girls' school and then went back to India. The school was run by Miss Minchin, a greedy woman who wanted Captain Crewe's money. She gave Sara the nicest clothes and the biggest bedroom in the house. Sara was very kind to the other girls, and she liked to tell stories to them. She also made friends with a servant girl, Becky.

Sara got a letter from her father telling her that he had bought some diamond mines. Miss Minchin was happy to hear that because now Sara would be richer than ever.

However, Sara's father lost all his money and died. Miss Minchin was furious and began to treat Sara badly. She made Sara a servant. Though Miss Minchin was unkind to her, Sara was never rude to her.

A man named Mr. Carrisford moved in to the house next door. When Sara finally met him, she found out that he was her father's good friend and had been looking for her for two years. Soon, Miss Minchin came over and scolded Sara for being there. Mr. Carrisford told Miss Minchin off for treating Sara badly. He revealed that Sara was in fact very rich, and Miss Minchin nearly fainted on hearing that. Sara was a little princess after all.

### 2. Chapter Summary

#### ► Chapter 1

Sara Crewe was born in India. Her mother was dead, and her father, Captain Crewe, was young, good-looking, and rich. He took her to England to go to school. Sara wanted him to stay with her, but he had to go back to India. The school was for girls, and it was run by a greedy woman named Miss Minchin. Miss Minchin knew that Sara was rich, and she wanted to help Sara use her money.

#### ► Chapter 2

Captain Crewe went back to India. He told Miss Minchin to buy Sara the best of everything. Sara had beautiful dresses and the biggest bedroom in the house. Sara liked these things, but she missed her father. The other girls soon found that Sara was kind, but some of them

were jealous because she was rich. One day, Miss Minchin asked Sara if she had ever learned French in school. Sara said no, and Miss Minchin told her that she would have to start learning French. Sara tried to tell her that she knew how to speak French, but Miss Minchin would not let her explain. When the French teacher came in, Sara explained it to the teacher in French. A surprised Miss Minchin got angry because the students laughed at her. She began to dislike Sara.

### ► Chapter 3

Sara told wonderful stories. Becky, a servant girl, loved to listen to her stories. Every night when Becky came to clean her room, Sara would give her food and tell her a story. One day, Sara's father told her in his letter that he had bought some diamond mines with a friend. The mines would make a lot of money if they were good. Miss Minchin was glad to hear this. Sara would be even richer. However, one day, a man came to tell Miss Minchin that Captain Crewe had died after losing all his money. Miss Minchin was furious. She had spent a lot of money on Sara, and now she would not get any of it back. She told Sara that her father was dead and she was now poor.

### ► Chapter 4

Sara was heartbroken. Now there was nobody left to care for her. Miss Minchin took away her beautiful clothes and big bedroom. She had to sleep in the attic without even a blanket to keep her warm. She had to work as a servant like Becky. To make herself feel better, Sara decided to pretend to be a princess. A true princess was never unkind and was always good to others. Becky remained a good friend to Sara and always helped her. Although Miss Minchin was often unkind and shouted at her, Sara was never rude to her and she never cried. That made Miss Minchin hate her even more.

### ► Chapter 5

In the spring, a man moved into the house next door. He had come from India, but he was actually English, and he was sick. His name was Mr. Carrisford, and he had an Indian servant. One day, the servant's monkey ran away, and Sara caught it. The servant was surprised when Sara spoke to him in Hindi. He later told Mr. Carrisford about the kind girl. One night, Sara found the monkey in her attic and took it back to the house next door.

### ► Chapter 6

Mr. Carrisford was sitting by the fire when Sara met him. He asked if she was a student at the school, and Sara said that she was until her father lost all his money in India and died. Mr. Carrisford looked surprised and asked for her father's name. He was overjoyed when

she said that it was Ralph Crewe. He told her that he was her father's friend and had been looking for her for two years. Then Miss Minchin appeared and scolded Sara for going next door. Mr. Carrisford was not happy to hear that, and he told Miss Minchin that Sara was now very rich, even richer than any princess. Sara was a little princess after all.

## **B. Background and Themes**

★ **Grace:** Though Miss Minchin hated her and was unkind to her, Sara was never rude or unkind to Miss Minchin.

★ **Kindness:** Sara was kind to Becky the servant girl, and as a result Becky became her good friend.

★ **Hardship:** Hardship is not necessarily a bad thing. Through hardship, Sara learned patience and kindness. In the end, she was a better person.

# Answer Key

## Part A Story Focus

*(Answers may vary.)*

### Before You Read

#### ► Introduction

1. It was a short story.
2. It was written by Frances Hodgson Burnett in 1905.
3. She wrote a play based on it.

#### ► Characters

**(Answers may vary.)**

1. Sara Crewe: brave, helpful, patient
2. Captain Crewe: rich, kind, good
3. Miss Minchin: unkind, not pretty, greedy
4. Becky: caring, young, poor

## **While You Read**

*(Answers may vary.)*

### **► Chapter 1**

#### **A. Preview Questions**

1. They are riding a carriage.
2. I think this is England.
3. She looks unhappy.

#### **B. Review Questions**

1. She was born in India.
2. She was in England.
3. She was a greedy woman.

### **► Chapter 2**

#### **A. Preview Questions**

1. She is being introduced to the class.
2. I think they are talking about the girl's nice clothes.
3. I think she feels nervous.

#### **B. Review Questions**

1. He told her to buy Sara the best of everything.
2. They learned that she was kind.
3. It was because Sara did not tell her that she could speak French.

### **► Chapter 3**

#### **A. Preview Questions**

1. I think she is telling a story about diamond mines.
2. They are listening to the girl's story.
3. I think she is a cleaning lady.

#### **B. Review Questions**

1. She could tell wonderful stories.
2. He told her that he and a friend had bought some diamond mines.
3. Sara's father was dead and had lost all his money.

## ► Chapter 4

### A. Preview Questions

1. I think it is Sara.
2. I think she is selling something.
3. I think it is hard.

### B. Review Questions

1. She took away Sara's gorgeous clothes and beautiful bedroom.
2. She had to teach them French.
3. Becky helped her.

## ► Chapter 5

### A. Preview Questions

1. He is most likely to be from India.
2. I think it belongs to the Indian man.
3. I think it likes Sara.

### B. Review Questions

1. She wanted to help him because her father had been ill before he died.
2. She spoke to him in Hindi.
3. She took it to the house next door.

## ► Chapter 6

### A. Preview Questions

1. They are at Mr. Carrisford's house.
2. I think she feels happy.
3. I think Mr. Carrisford is very kind to her.

### B. Review Questions

1. He was surprised because Sara was the daughter of his good friend.
2. She was surprised because Sara was actually very rich.
3. She nearly fainted.

### Mini Quiz

a. A rolling stone gathers no moss.

→ Someone who does not stay in one place for long does not have responsibilities or cares.  
An alternative meaning for this saying views "moss" as a bad thing that collects on something that never moves. Then the meaning relates to a person who is always moving always having new or creative ideas.

b. Don't cast your pearls before swine.

→ Don't try to give people something of good quality when they do not know what good quality is.

c. Good things come to those who wait.

→ This proverb is about patience. When things are bad and stay that way for a long time, it is easy to give up hope. However, if we never give up hope, someday something good will happen. Sara had a difficult life as a servant girl for two years. But she never changed the way she was and always responded to Miss Minchin's unkindness with kindness. Finally, her patience was rewarded. She received the fortune her father left her.



## After You Read

### ► Pattern Practice

*(Answers may vary.)*

4. A: Thank you for not smoking.

B: Sure. It's no problem.

5. A: Thank you for coming.

B: My pleasure.

### ► Challenge

1. I will tell all my friends about it.

2. I will buy a big house, a nice car, and other expensive things.

3. I will travel around the world.

4. I will help poor children by buying them food, clothes, and other things they need.

## Part B Skill Focus

### Vocabulary Preview

#### A.

- |      |       |
|------|-------|
| 1. b | 2. h  |
| 3. f | 4. j  |
| 5. a | 6. g  |
| 7. e | 8. d  |
| 9. c | 10. i |

#### B.

- |            |            |
|------------|------------|
| 1. attic   | 2. explain |
| 3. born    | 4. cab     |
| 5. hate    | 6. richer  |
| 7. treated |            |

## Reading Comprehension

### ► Beginning: Chapters 1–2

#### A.

1. T   2. F   3. F   4. T   5. T

#### B.

1. She is Sara Crewe.
2. She is young.
3. She is not rude.
4. She can speak French.

#### C.

1. b   2. d   3. a   4. c   5. a   6. c

### ► Middle: Chapters 3–4

#### A.

1. F   2. T   3. T   4. F   5. T

#### B.

1. Becky
2. Miss Minchin
3. Sara Crewe
4. Captain Crewe

#### C.

1. c   2. c   3. b   4. a   5. d   6. b

### ► End: Chapters 5–6

#### A.

1. F   2. T   3. F   4. F   5. T

#### B.

b → c → d → a

#### C.

1. a   2. c   3. d   4. a   5. c   6. b

## Think and Write

Sara Crewe	Both	Miss Minchin
is young	lives at the girls' school	is older
is kind	has Becky as a helper	is unkind
is rich	meets Mr. Carrisford	is greedy
is a student		is head of the school

## Vocabulary Review

1. Miss Minchin was thin **and** ugly.
2. Sara had beautiful dresses made **of** silk, velvet, and lace.
3. The other girls were **excited** to meet Sara.
4. The girls liked to **look** at Sara's gorgeous clothes.
5. Sara made friends **with** a servant girl named Becky.
6. If the diamond mines were good, Captain Crewe **would** make a lot of money.
7. Before Captain Crewe **died**, he lost all his money.
8. Sarah was heartbroken **when** she heard about her father.
9. Mr. Carrisford was wrapped **in** a blanket.
10. Miss Minchin could have **been** kind to Sara.

## Summary

### A.

f → b → d → a → e → c

### B.

1. Sara wore gorgeous clothes and slept in a beautiful bedroom.
2. Miss Minchin made Sara a servant girl.
3. Mr. Carrisford told Sara that she was rich.

## Book Report

1. born      2. richer      3. died      4. unkind      5. poor