

A Surprise for Sarah



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Introduction for Ministry of Education Online Early Childhood Education Teaching and Learning Materials

The Liberia Ministry of Education has developed 50 context-relevant and age-appropriate early childhood education readers. These readers would be addressing the chronic need of improving the quality of teaching and learning materials and the widespread lack of curriculum materials for foundational literacy and play-based learning. Twenty-five of these ECD readers were written by ECE master trainers and, 25 were contextualized using online open-source stories from the global digital libraries.

Welcome to this audio edition of early childhood books aligned to the Liberia Early Childhood Education Curriculum. There are 50 eBooks in this edition. The uniqueness of this Ministry of Education approach is that each book has a sign language version.

The books come in three categories or levels:

- Beginner or nursery is for children ages 3 to 4
- Intermediate or K-I is for children ages 4 to 5 and
- Advance or K-II is for children ages 5 to 6

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To access these early childhood books online, please go to the Ministry of Education website: www.moe.gov.lr

Sarah was six years old and physically challenged. She was in the 1st grade class.



The day before the new school year began, Sarah's mama came from work with a bag in her hand.



Sarah greeted her mom and asked, "What is in the bag, mama?" "Can you guess?" her mother asked her.



“Is it my walking shoes?” “No,” her mother said. “Guess again,” Sarah’s mama said to her.



“Hmmm.... A dress for me?” “You are getting close,” her mama said. “Can you try again?”



“Shoes for me,” Sarah answered.



“Thanks for trying Sarah.” her mama said to her. “Tomorrow, I will bring the bag out for you to see what is in it.”



“Please Mama, I want to see what is in the bag.” Sarah pleaded with her mama.



In no time, Mr. Varney, Sarah's dad got home. Sarah's mind was off the bag in her mama's hand and now on the crutches in her father's hand.



“Wow!!! Daddy, you got me new crutches?” “Yes!!!” her daddy said.
“These will help you get to school easily.” “Thanks daddy, I love them,” Sarah said.



That night, Sarah could not sleep. She thought about her first day in grade one with her new crutches and what her mother had in the bag.



The next morning when Sarah woke up, the first thing she took were her crutches and not the stick she was using to help her move about.



“Wow! These crutches are better,” she said. “I can move about easily while in school.”



Sarah's mama stood at her room door, with the bag in her hand at her back.



“Good morning, Sarah, how was your night?” “I am fine mama,” said Sarah.



“Oh, wow! You are using your new crutches.” “Yes Mama!” said Sarah.



“Are you ready to see what is in the bag?” “Yes! Yes! Please Mama.”



Her mama gave the bag to her and said, "Open it."



She hurriedly opened the bag. "Wush, Yash, Sush." Sarah said with a smile on her face as she pulled out a beautiful red, blue and yellow dress.



“Your father and I got it for your first day in the 1st grade.”



"Thanks mama and papa," Sarah said.



She wore her new dress, took her crutches and went to school happily.



Activity 1

Direction: circle the things Sarah got from her father and Mother.

Draw a watch, crutches, shoes, and dress



Activity 2

Direction: circle Y, if it is yes and N, if it is no.

1. Sarah's mama brought shoes. Y, N

2. Her father got her a wheel chair. Y, N

Reading Level: Beginner (Age 3 -4)

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Synopsis

Sarah is handicapped and is preparing to go to school. See what all Sarah gets to use in the school.

