



# Read-Alone

## *Pioneer Girl*

by William Anderson



Read-Alone Guide Answer Key by Stacey Lane

**Illuminations Year Five**  
*Pioneer Girl*  
The Story of Laura Ingalls Wilder  
by William Anderson  
Read-Alone Guide Answer Key by Stacey Lane  
~ **Week 1** ~

**Supplies**

- *Pioneer Girl* by William Anderson
- GO E-6, Log of Characters
- GO E-9, Story Pyramid
- Map of the United States

**Optional Bible Study**

- In Laura's bible she kept a reference list of verses that she read for guidance and encouragement. You can find the list at:  
<http://www.laurasprairiehouse.com/research/bibleverses.html>
- Together with your student, choose a section to read each day.
- Laura read the King James Version; try comparing the same verses in different translations.

**Week 1 - Day 1**

- Determine where the halfway point of the book is by counting the pages. Read to the halfway point.
- Add Pa, Ma, Mary, and Laura to the GO E-6.
- 1. Why did the Ingalls have to leave their house in Kansas? [*It was built on land that belonged to Osage Indians.*]
- 2. Where did they move after Pa felt the woods were too crowded in Wisconsin? [*Walnut Grove Minnesota, near Plum Creek*]
- 3. What dropped from the sky and ruined Pa's wheat crop? [*grasshoppers*]
- 4. What was Laura's first job? [*She was a teacher in a school 12 miles from De Smet.*]
- Read a picture book to a family member or friend. Have the family member close his or her eyes while you read and describe the pictures in the book to them.

**Week 1 - Day 2**

- Finish reading the book.
- Add Carrie, Grace, Almanzo, and Rose to the GO E-6.

- If you would like more details on the family members, go to:

<http://www.laurasprairiehouse.com/family/index.html>

1. How old was Laura when she married Almanzo? *[18 years old]*
2. Why did the Wilders move to Florida? *[Almanzo had come down with an illness that affected his leg, their gray house had burned down, and their baby boy died. They were looking for a fresh start.]*
3. A shiny red apple, a gift from a friend, prompted the Wilders to do what? *[move to Mansfield, Missouri, and buy an apple tree farm]*
4. Why did Laura write her books? *[so children could know how the pioneers had lived]*

### Week 1 - Day 3

- Color in Pepin, Wisconsin; Independence, Kansas; Walnut Grove, Minnesota; Burr Oak, Iowa; De Smet, (South) Dakota; Florida; and Mansfield, Missouri, on the map.
- Fill out a GO E-9, Story Pyramid.

### Week 1 - Day 4

- Write a letter thanking Laura for her stories.
- Draw a picture thanking Laura for her stories.
- This site contains the response given when children wrote to Laura. Have students read the letter after they have written their letters.  
<http://www.laurasprairiehouse.com/research/lettertofans.html>
- Watch an episode from the *Little House on the Prairie* TV Series.

