

## People to look up to?



Figure 1 Helen Keller reading a book 1904

Helen Keller (1880-1968) was one of the most remarkable people who ever lived and certainly someone we can all look up to and admire. As a result of a childhood illness at the age of 19 months she was left deaf and blind. Despite this, Helen Keller learnt to read, write and speak. She became an ambassador/spokesperson promoting self-esteem for the individual. She said: "We can do anything we want if we stick to it long enough" and "Everything has its wonders, even darkness and silence, and I learn, whatever state I may be in, therein to be content."

### TASK A

Below you will find the names of some of the people pupils stated in *CensusAtSchool* questionnaire as being the person they most look up to:

Adelaine Yen Mar  
Bill Hicks  
Martin Luther King  
Pippa Funnel  
Aaron Feinberg  
Michael Faraday

Ray Mears  
Brian Tatler  
Shigeru Miyamoto  
Bob Burnquist  
Damien Hurst  
Derek Kenway

1. Choose three of these people and use the Internet to find out who they are.
2. Are they alive or dead?
3. What did they do to make them famous?
4. Describe why you think someone would look up to these people.

### TASK B

Ask some adults who they look up to and do some research into the people they mention.

Do adults look up to different types of people to pupils in your class?