Chapter 1

Rachel is a little girl. She is seven years old. She loves nature. She dreams of the sea. She wants to see the sea. But, she lives very far away from the sea.

Rachel's mother has a conch shell in the house. She has it over the fireplace. Rachel puts the shell to her ear. She listens to the sounds in the shell. Rachel will become an adult. Then, adult Rachel will write books about the sea and nature.

1. Question: Why do you think Rachel will write about nature?

She ____ ____ about ________ because, She...

Rachel lived in Springdale, Pennsylvania. She was born May 27th, 1907. Her mother taught Rachel many things.

Rachel's mother was afraid. She was afraid Rachel would get sick at school and die. Sometimes, Rachel did not go to school.

Rachel and her family lived on a farm in Springdale. There were pigs, horses, and cows on the farm. Rachel's brothers and sisters were much older than Rachel.
T.V. and radio were not invented. The house did not have electricity. So, Rachel and her family would sit next to the fireplace and sing.

Rachel's older brother was named Robert. Robert liked to hunt. Rachel didn't like him killing animals. She convinced him to stop hunting.

Question 2. What did Rachel do at home? (tell me 4 things)

At home, Rachel...

Chapters 2

Rachel Carson was in 4th grade. Rachel Carson didn't know any writers. But, she wanted to be one.

Her brother went to fight in World War 1. He wrote her letters. One letter was about a brave pilot. Rachel wrote a story about the pilot.
She submitted her story to Saint Nicholas Magazine. Saint Nicholas magazine published stories from young students.

Her story was published and she received $10. She wrote more stories and received more money.

Rachel went to a new high school, far away. She was lonely, but she was a very good student.

She was such a good student, the school awarded her a scholarship to go to college.

Question 3. How did Rachel Carson feel in high school?

In ____________, _____ felt...but...
Chapter 3
In 1925, Rachel Carson attended Pennsylvania College for Women.

Rachel Carson was pretty. She did not have much money, so she didn't go many places in college. She didn't go to many parties or movies.

Rachel Carson worked very in school. She was diligent. Her favorite teacher was Miss Croff. She was an English teacher.

Rachel was diligent about her writing. She wrote for the school newspaper. She was a reporter. She talked to many people.

She also learned to play the violin. Rachel needed to choose a science class. She didn't want to. But, she really loved Ms. Skinker's biology class. The biology class went on a trip to a hillside. There, Rachel found a fish fossil.
In college, Rachel had to choose biology or writing. She thought she could only do one. Choosing was very difficult. She loved to write and she loved the science class.

Finally, one night she listened to a poem. The poem was about the ocean and the water. She loved the ocean. The poem inspired her to choose biology. She could study the animals in the ocean.

Chapter 4

Many friends told Rachel she should be a writer. Many friends told her studying biology was a very bad idea.

In the 1920's, most women didn't study biology. It was very hard for a woman to get a job doing biology because men thought women couldn't do biology.
Rachel Carson graduated from college. Then she got a job. Her job was studying the ocean. Studying the ocean made her very happy. She loved watching the sea.

In 1932, she took a test for a better job. She was better than the men on the test. She got the job as a scientist.

Her new job was to write stories about fish. The other scientists could not write very well. She was so happy! She could do two things she loved.

In 1935, Rachel's father died. Her family was very sad. Also, there was the Great Depression. Many people did not have jobs.

Rachel needed to help her mother. Rachel felt very lucky to have a job. Her mother came to live with Rachel. Her mother helped her with her science experiments.
Chapter 5

Rachel did not like to be indoors at work. She liked her co-workers, the people she worked with. She liked to laugh with her co-workers at the office. Her co-worker, Shirley Briggs, drew cartoons.

At the office, she liked to play tricks with her co-workers, but she was serious about her job.

Her boss asked her to write an introduction to a book. She worked for many hours on it. Her boss was Mr. Higgins.

The book was named "Undersea." It was about animals in the ocean. Some animals live near the coast. The tide is important to them. Some animals live in deep in the ocean. They never see the sun. All the animals are important. They are part of a food chain.
Mr. Higgins, her boss, liked her introduction, but he said it was too good for "Undersea"! He thought it should be published into an important magazine!

That year, Rachel's sister, Marion, got sick and died. Rachel and her mother took care of Marion's daughters. They all moved together to Silver Springs, Maryland. They had fun together. They went to the woods, to see animals.

Rachel and her mother did not have much money. They needed more money to take care of Marion's daughters. She needed to work many hours to make money. She wrote many articles.

Rachel sold some of her articles to different magazines. She sold "Undersea" to another magazine. They bought it.

She showed "Undersea" to her boss, Mr. Higgins. He thought it was still too good! He wanted it to be a book. Many people agreed. The book was published. She worked with a famous naturalist. His name was Willem van Loon. She got $250.

Question: How did Rachel make money?

Rachel __________ to make money.

(Agreed) 同意
(Published) 发表
(Naturalist) 博物
She worked late every night to finish the book. The book was called "Under the Sea Wind". It was about all the animals that live in the ocean, or near the ocean. Some of these animals are birds, fish, and eels. She wrote the book in three years.

When she was finished, Quincy Howe and Willem van Loon were very happy. They told her she would get money for the book.

At the same time, a war started in Europe. It was World War II. Everyone was very scared that the United States would go to war soon. When Rachel's book was published, few people bought it. They did not care about the ocean because of the big war.

On December 7, 1941, Japan attacked the United States. This was an important event in history, called Pearl Harbor. Japan bombed the United States, in Hawaii. The United States went to war.

Question: Rachel wrote a great book about the ocean. But, she did not make a lot of money. Why not?
Chapter 6

Rachel's book did not sell many copies. It sold few copies. She was upset because she did not make a lot of money.

Her job at the Fish and Wildlife Service was very busy because of the war. Many battles were fought in the ocean. They were fought by ships and submarines. The ships and submarines needed to know about the ocean.

Not all of science was good. Atom bombs were dropped in two Japanese cities. The cities were called Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Thousands of people were killed by bombs. Everyone was sad. Rachel was very upset.

In 1947, Rachel started to write another book. She wanted it to be for everyone, not just scientists. Rachel found an agent to help her publish the book. Her name was Marie Rodell. Marie's job was to find a publisher. An important publisher called the Oxford Press wanted the book to be done very quickly.

Rachel got sick very often. Even when she was sick, she worked very hard. She took care of her mother and nieces. She cooked and cleaned for them. She did not have a lot of time to write her book. She went to work then took care of her family. She was tired at the end of the day.
Some days, her job helped her to write. She went on an underwater diving trip. She saw many animals and enjoyed the trip a lot! She said it was one of the best experiences of her life.

Rachel went on a trip for ten days with her job. She was the first woman to see the northern Atlantic ocean on a research boat. She wrote about it in her new book.

She read many books to help her learn about the ocean. Many people helped her learn about the ocean. She had more than one thousand (1,000) sources for her book.

The book took three years to finish. Rachel's mother helped her type the book. The book was about the ocean. It was about the tides of the ocean, the waves, and the currents.

The main idea of Rachel's book was that the ocean affects all of us. The Earth does not waste anything, it balances itself.
In 1951 her book, "The Sea Around Us," was published. Not many people knew about ecology. Rachel wrote so well that many people were interested in her book.

Rachel did not think she would make a lot of money from her new book, "The Sea Around Us." She did not make a lot of money from her first book. But then, she won a prize for her book, and won $1,000. Then she was paid $10,000 for it.

Question: Did Rachel think, "I'm going to make a lot of money?" Why not?

She gave many speeches about her book. She became very famous, but she did not like it. She said, "I am much happier at home barefoot in the sand."

Chapter 7

Rachel was famous. Many people knew who she was. Her first book, "Under The Sea Wind," was published again. This time, many people bought it. Many people bought both of her books. She made a lot of money.
Rachel paid all her debts. She quit her job. She bought a house near the ocean in Maine. She stayed there in the summer to write books.

Rachel gave many speeches about her books. It made her nervous.

She started to write a new book. She traveled to different parts of the coast. They went all the way to Florida!

Rachel's new book needed many pictures. She asked her friend Bob Hines to illustrate the book. He drew the pictures. Bob went on trips with Rachel and her mother. He drew pictures of what they found.

Question: What do you think Bob took pictures of?

I think Bob took pictures of...and...
In 1955, her third book was released. It made her more famous! Many people bought it! Many people wanted to meet Rachel.

Rachel liked to spend time with her neighbors in Maine, and with her family. Her niece, Marjie visited with her son, Roger. This inspired her to write an article about nature for children.

In 1957, the Carson family got very sick. Rachel, her mother, and her niece Marjie all got sick. Marjie died. Rachel had to take care of Marjie's five-year-old son, Roger. She was very busy and very sad. It was hard to write.

Rachel liked to spend time with Roger and other children. They looked for animals in the ocean.

Rachel was restless. She wanted to write a new book.
In the 1950’s, Rachel heard companies were using pesticides to kill bugs. The pesticides were hurting the animals and the sea. The pesticides were making people and animals sick.

Rachel wanted to help. No one would listen to her. She decided to write a book about the pesticides. She didn't tell anyone about the book she was writing. She kept it a secret.

Chapter 8

Rachel found out a lot of facts for her book about pesticides. A lot of scientists helped her find facts. The name of the book was, "Silent Spring".

Rachel found out many scary facts. The government knew about the chemicals in pesticides, but did not stop people using them. The chemicals were making many people and animals sick.

In 1959, Rachel's mother got sick and died. Rachel took a break from writing the book. Rachel was sad because she was alone.
Rachel got sick many times, but she was determined to take care of her family and finish her book. She was very sick with cancer.

It was important for her to finish her book, even though she was sick. In 1962, she finished writing "Silver Spring." done. People were now happy to know about all the dangers of pesticides.

She was very happy that people knew the truth. People were shocked. Companies making pesticides were very upset with her.

People published many articles saying Rachel was wrong. They said pesticides did not hurt people or animals. But, Rachel knew she was right. People were hurting the environment with pesticides.

The President of the United States, John F. Kennedy, asked for a special report to find out if Rachel was right. The scientists realized that Rachel was correct. John F. Kennedy made new laws because of Rachel. They stopped pollution.
Rachel became even more famous. She won many awards and prizes.

She was very sick, but she went on TV to talk more about her book. Now, millions (1,000,000) of people knew the truth. It made her happy.

Her book, Silent Spring, was published in many languages. She wanted the everybody in the world to be careful with the environment.

Rachel Carson died on April 14, 1964. She was 57 years old. She taught people many important things about nature, science and the sea.