

Carly Mills Pioneer Girl # 4 - The Lady with the Lamp

by

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About the Series

Featuring a young girl who travels back in time and has adventures with strong and influential women of the past, 'Carly Mills, Pioneer Girl' introduces children to the female pioneers who paved the way to a better society. Full of adventure and surprises, the series shows how these women, through determination, integrity and courage, changed the world – and how those same qualities can still inspire young women of today.

About the Book: The Lady with the Lamp

London! When Simone invites Carly and Dora to visit her parents in England on holiday, they're looking forward to an adventure – but they're not expecting to go back to the past, let alone face discrimination, disease and danger! Thrust back into London of over a hundred years ago, when girls were not allowed to have real careers, they meet one woman who is about to change it all: Florence Nightingale. Through war and peace, Carly and her friends learn that courage sometimes means owning up to your mistakes.

From the Author

I'm lucky to live in a time and place in which my gender doesn't limit my opportunities significantly. Even in the western world it wasn't always so. In the past, girls didn't receive the same education as boys; women weren't allowed to become doctors or politicians or engineers or have just about any other career besides teaching or domestic service. They weren't even allowed to vote. In some countries, women still have fewer rights than men, but in most western countries we've come a long way.

Our progress is thanks to the brave women from history – in Australia and all around the world – who stood up and fought for our rights. Thanks to them, girls like you can go to school, have a career in a field that interests you, have a job *and* a family (if that's what you want), vote, own your own home, make scientific discoveries, travel, even become prime minister! I'm grateful to the strong women of history like Caroline Chisholm, Dr Lilian Cooper and Florence Nightingale, whose efforts made the world a better place – not just for women, but for everyone. I'm also grateful to the women in my own life – my mother, sister, daughter and friends – who have shown me the value of love, loyalty, friendship and courage.

The 'Carly Mills, Pioneer Girl' series combines fact with fiction. The books contain true settings and events and some real people, but the main characters – Carly and her friends – are characters that I made up. This is what we call *historical fiction*. I've tried to keep the history part as accurate as possible, and to help you to separate the fact from the fiction, I've included some historical notes at the end. I hope that Carly and her friends (both the real ones and the made-up ones!) inspire *you* to make your part of the world a better place.

Emerging Themes and Issues

- Feminism
- Women's rights
- Empowering women
- Biography
- Time travel
- Adventure
- Health

- Comparison of communities in the past and present
- Influential people
- Nursing
- Friendship
- Medical history
- War

Key Curriculum Areas

KLA: English

Year 3

Draw connections between personal experiences and the worlds of texts, and share responses with others <u>ACELT1596</u>.

Discuss how language is used to describe the settings in texts, and explore how the settings shape the events and influence the mood of the narrative <u>ACELT1599</u>.

Identify the point of view in a text and suggest alternative points of view ACELY1675.

Create imaginative texts based on characters, settings and events from students' own and other cultures using visual features, for example, perspective, distance and angle <u>ACELT1601</u>.

Use comprehension strategies to build literal and inferred meaning and begin to evaluate texts by drawing on a growing knowledge of context, text structures and language features ACELY1680.

Year 4

Discuss literary experiences with others, sharing responses and expressing a point of view (ACELT1603).

Discuss how authors and illustrators make stories exciting, moving and absorbing, and hold readers' interest by using various techniques, for example, character development and plot tension (ACELT1605).

Create literary texts that explore students' own experiences and imagining (ACELT1607).

Use comprehension strategies to build literal and inferred meaning to expand content knowledge, integrating and linking ideas and analysing and evaluating texts (ACELY1692).

Year 5

Understand that patterns of language interaction vary across social contexts and types of texts and that they help to signal social roles and relationships (ACELA1501).

Identify aspects of literary texts that convey details or information about particular social, cultural and historical contexts (ACELT1608).

Recognise that ideas in literary texts can be conveyed from different viewpoints, which can lead to different kinds of interpretations and responses (ACELT1610).

Create literary texts that experiment with structures, ideas and stylistic features of selected authors (ACELT1798).

Identify and explain characteristic text structures and language features used in imaginative, informative and persuasive texts to meet the purpose of the text (ACELY1701).

Year 6

Understand how authors often innovate on text structures and play with language features to achieve particular aesthetic, humorous and persuasive purposes and effects (ACELA1518).

Make connections between students' own experiences and those of characters and events represented in texts drawn from different historical, social and cultural contexts (ACELT1613).

Participate in and contribute to discussions, clarifying and interrogating ideas, developing and supporting arguments, sharing and evaluating information, experiences and opinions (ACELY1709).

Analyse how text structures and language features work together to meet the purpose of a text (ACELY1711).

Suggested Pre-Reading Questions & Activities

- Discussion: If you could travel back in time and visit a certain place or event, where might you like to go? What might you choose to see or do? What might be the same? What might be different?
- The series name is **Carly Mills, Pioneer Girl**. What is a pioneer?
- The title of the book is *The Lady with the Lamp* what might this mean?
- Show students the cover of the novel and read the blurb to them. Ask them to write down their predictions of what might happen to Carly throughout the story.
- The story is about Florence Nightingale. Students use the KWL template to record what they know about her and what they want to know.

Suggested During Reading Activities

- As the students progress through the story, create a story map that outlines the generic features of the novel (introduction, conflict, resolution, further action, conclusion).
- Create a word wall, including unknown words and words relating to the era in which Florence Nightingale lived.
- Choose words from within the text to include in spelling lists.
- Build a profile for each character throughout the book. Include descriptive words found in the text and personal inferences.
- Use the character profile template to record the details of the characters in the story.
- Search for images of London online in the late 1800s.
- Students add questions and findings about Florence Nightingale to their KWL sheet.

Suggested Post-Reading Activities

- Read the historical note. Discuss which events in the book were real and which events the author made up.
- See the quotes from Florence Nightingale on page 177: 'I attribute my success to this: I never gave or took an excuse' and 'Live life when you have it. Life is a splendid gift there is nothing small about it.' What might they mean?
- Refer to Jane Smith's 'Carly Mills, Pioneer Girl' website. Look at the timeline of the life of
 Florence Nightingale. Compare it to the timeline made of events of Australian history during
 the time.

https://www.carlymillspioneergirl.com/florence-nightingale.html https://www.nma.gov.au/defining-moments/defining-moments-timeline

- Write a letter to author Jane Smith asking further questions about Florence Nightingale.
- Create and film a 'book talk' reviewing the book.
- Produce a new book cover and blurb for the story.
- Write a book review, outlining details of the storyline, recommended readers, etc.
- Create an advertising poster, which could be displayed in a bookstore, that would persuade readers to purchase the book.
- Imagine you are Florence Nightingale, Carly Mills, Dora or Simone. Write a series of diary entries based on events in the book.
- Choose a strong woman from the past to research. Write a report and create a brief PowerPoint presentation on her life and achievements.
- Read the mock interview with Florence Nightingale. Write a question you would like her to answer. Try writing the answer. Swap questions with a partner and each answer your partner's question from Florence Nightingale's perspective. Are your answers similar?
- Are there student questions from their KWL that require further research?

Chapter Summaries and Comprehension Questions

Chapter 1

Carly and Dora are in a plane on the way to London with Simone, who has invited them to visit her parents in London for the school holidays.

- 1. Have you ever been on a plane? Describe something about your flight the seats, the food or how it felt to take off and land. If you haven't been on a plane, can you describe how you *imagine* it would be?
- 2. Carly wonders what Simone is to her: 'Her classmate? Her foe? Her *friend*?' What is a foe? Why might Carly have trouble deciding? If you've read other 'Carly Mills' books, explain how their friendship has developed so far.
- 3. Carly's flight went for more than twenty hours. Have you ever been on a long journey in a bus, car, train, boat or plane? Can you describe how you felt at the end of it?
- 4. Simone seems grumpy at the end of the chapter, even though they've finally arrived in London. Why?

Chapter 2

The girls arrive at Heathrow Airport in London. A smartly dressed woman called Bianca greets them, explaining that she is Simone's father's personal assistant. She takes them to a taxi, and as they drive through the traffic, Carly falls asleep. When she awakes, the taxi is outside Simone's apartment building. Carly discovers that while she was asleep, Simone's mother phoned Bianca to say that she wouldn't be home tonight because she and her husband were out at a party. Simone is angry and storms off. She grabs her magic lace ribbon, knowing that if she puts it on, she will go back to the past. Carly and Dora quickly pull their magic shawls out of their bags so they can go with her.

- 1. From the description of Bianca on page 11, can you draw a picture?
- 2. What is a personal assistant?
- 3. Why does Simone say 'Told you so' on page 12?
- 4. Look for a picture of a typical London black taxi.
- 5. How do you think Simone is feeling when she's on the phone with her mother? Why is she feeling like that? How would you feel in her position?
- 6. Carly isn't keen to go back to olden-day London. Give some of her reasons. Why do you think she decides to go anyway?
- 7. What does the term 'olden-day' mean to you?

Chapter 3

Carly and her friends have put on their magic shawls and lace and gone back to the past. The first thing they notice is a terrible smell. Then a group of people comes out of a building near them: an older man and woman, and their two grown-up daughters. The group greets Carly, Simone and Dora, who are looking lost. Dora tells them they're visiting from the country and have lost their hotel and their luggage. One of the younger women invites the girls back to their place. She introduces herself

as Florence Nightingale, a name Simone seems to recognise. The girls get into the Nightingales' horse-drawn carriage and set off.

- 1. Carly says the smell is 'Horse poo, and ... smoke ... and ... worse.' What do you think the 'worse' might be?
- 2. Flo says she hates parties. What do you think of parties? Why do you think Flo doesn't like them? Think about this question again when you've finished the book.
- 3. Why does Dora say, 'We're visiting from the country ... and we can't find our hotel.'?
- 4. Imagine you are riding in an old horse-drawn carriage. What might it feel like? How would it be different from riding in a car?
- 5. Life in the 1800s was very different from today in lots of ways. List a few things from this chapter that show the differences.

Chapter 4

The girls arrive at the Nightingales' hotel, The Burlington Hotel. They discover that the Nightingale family is very rich. Florence's mother wants her to play the piano, but she's a terrible pianist. Instead she wants to do maths with her father, to Mrs Nightingale's annoyance. Florence tells the girls that she wants to be a nurse, but it seems her family has different ideas. Her mother and sister get so upset by the conversation that they faint, and Florence has to revive them with 'smelling salts'. Carly, Dora and Simone are keen to escape the family drama and return to the present.

- 1. What signs show Carly and her friends that the Nightingales are very rich?
- 2. Why does Florence say, 'Being rich is nothing to be proud of'? What do you think of that statement?
- 3. Carly thinks that maths is fine, but it wasn't something she would normally do for *fun*. What do *you* think of maths? What is your favourite subject at school and why?
- 4. What's a pie graph?
- 5. Florence's mother says that mathematics is not 'proper' for a young lady. She also says that nursing is not respectable for a lady. What does 'respectable' mean? Do you think a mother would say those things to her daughter these days? If not, how and why do you think attitudes have changed?

Chapter 5

Carly and her friends have returned to the present and find themselves in a park not far from Simone's apartment. Bianca finds them and tells them that Simone's parents came home early from the party because Mrs Shaw (Simone's mother) sprained her ankle while dancing. They go back to the apartment, which is very fancy. Simone tells Carly and Dora that Florence Nightingale is very famous and is known as 'the mother of modern nursing'.

- 1. Why is Simone still upset, even though her parents are coming home after all?
- 2. List all the things you've learnt about Simone and her home so far. What do you think they tell you about her family?
- 3. Carly is excited to be in London and wants to stay up and talk, but decides to go to bed when Simone does. Why? She thinks *We're not even friends not really.* What does this section tell you about Carly?

- 4. Have you ever *wanted* to do one thing but felt you really *should* do something else? Can you describe the situation? What did you do? Why?
- 5. What could Simone mean when she calls Florence 'the mother of modern nursing'?
- 6. What do you think Simone's parents are going to be like?

Chapter 6

Carly and Dora meet Simone's parents, Mr and Mrs Shaw. Mrs Shaw has an injured ankle and has to stay home. Mr Shaw has to go to work, so he takes the girls with him in the car. When they get to his work after a long drive, they have to wait for him, so they go for a walk along the river bank. Bored, they decide to go back to the past again.

- 1. Are Simone's parents how you imagined they would be? Why/why not?
- 2. Why is Simone still cranky?
- 3. Why does Carly feel homesick? Have you ever felt homesick? If so, describe the feeling. What made it go away?
- 4. Find a picture of London Bridge.

Chapter 7

The girls are back in the past, and it stinks again! They realise the smell is coming from the Thames River. Dora vomits into the river, just as Florence Nightingale appears to offer her help. She explains that the smell is so bad because London's sewage empties directly into the river. It seems that Florence is about to get on a boat with a group of nurses, and she assumes that Carly and her friends are there to join her. Curious, they board the boat with her. Once they're on the boat, they discover that the group of nurses is heading to a place called Scutari Hospital – to go to war.

- 1. Have you ever smelt something so bad it made you want to be sick? What was it? Can you describe it?
- 2. Florence gives Dora something sweet-smelling to disguise the smell of the river. List some things that smell nice.
- 3. Why don't cities smell quite so terrible these days?
- 4. Why do you think Carly, Simone and Dora get on the boat?
- 5. How do you think they feel at the end of the chapter when they discover they are going to war?

Chapter 8

On the boat, Simone tells Carly and Dora that they're going to the war in 'The Crimea'. Carly is angry but Dora reassures her, saying they can always take their shawls off and go back to the present if it gets too dangerous. When Florence tells them that they're going to save lives, Carly feels better about the adventure.

- 1. Where is the Crimea? Where is Turkey? See if you can find them on a map.
- 2. When was the Crimean War? What events were happening in Australia at that time?
- 3. Describe the ups and downs of Carly's feelings in this short chapter.
- 4. How would you feel in Carly's situation? What would you do?

5. Think about some people whose jobs make them risk their lives to help people. Can you list some professions that put people in danger? Why do you think they do it?

Chapter 9

Carly and her friends travel by steamship with Florence Nightingale and the nurses to France, where they stay in Marseille and get supplies. They learn a little bit about the task ahead of them as nurses in Scutari. Then they board the ship *Vectis* that will take them there.

- 1. What is the English Channel? Find it on a map.
- 2. Where is Marseille? Find it on a map.
- 3. What are galoshes?
- 4. How do you think Carly and her friends would feel about suddenly being expected to be nurses in a military hospital?
- 5. What are cobbled streets?

Chapter 10

Carly, Simone and Dora board the ship *Vectis* with Florence Nightingale and the nurses. It's cramped and smelly and riddled with vermin. Travelling across the Mediterranean makes them seasick. After a week they arrive at Constantinople, where they take another small boat to the Hospital at Scutari (now called Üsküdar).

- 1. What is a paddle steamer? Find a picture.
- 2. What is 'The Mediterranean'? Find it on a map.
- 3. Have you ever been seasick or carsick? Describe the feeling.
- 4. Constantinople is now called Istanbul. What country is it in? Find it on a map. Can you trace Carly's journey from London to Marseille and then to Constantinople (Istanbul) and Scutari (Üsküdar)?

Chapter 11

The hospital at Scutari is smelly and dirty. Arriving there, the nurses are greeted by an angry man who says he is Dr Menzies. He is in charge of the hospital. He says he wasn't expecting them and that he doesn't need the help of 'a bunch of useless women'. Florence says she has government orders, so she will wait until he comes to his senses. Meanwhile she takes the girls to look around the hospital. They are horrified by the filthy conditions and shocked to learn they will have more than 1000 patients to care for – with only 39 nurses. They find their living quarters and spend the day cleaning while they wait for the doctor to let them work. They discover that patients in the hospital have been dying at a rate of 70 a day. Given the filthy conditions, it's not surprising – but they realise that doctors in Florence's day don't know much about germs or hygiene yet.

- 1. Why do you think Dr Menzies is so angry? How would you feel if you heard someone say 'We don't need help from a bunch of useless women'? What would you say to Dr Menzies if you heard him saying that?
- 2. Do you think Dr Menzies really does need their help? Why/why not?

- 3. If there are 1000 patients and 39 nurses, how many patients will each nurse need to look after? Use a calculator to work it out.
- 4. Dora is horrified to see the chamber pots and to realise that one of her jobs will be to empty them. What jobs do you have to do at home that you really don't like? Can you describe one and explain what you don't like about it?
- 5. What does Simone mean when she says 'It's filthy here. It's like a magnet for germs.'

Chapter 12

On their fourth day at the hospital, huge numbers of wounded and/or sick soldiers arrive, and the doctors realise they really do need the nurses' help. Carly and her friends get to work. Carly looks after a wounded soldier named James. At the end of a busy day, Carly stays by his bedside to read to him, even though the nurses are not allowed in the wards at night. When Florence finds her there, Carly expects she will be angry, but instead Florence kindly tells her that the soldier's fever has gone and he will recover. Relieved, Carly goes to bed.

- 1. What does 'frostbitten' mean?
- 2. Florence tells the nurses what jobs they must do and says, 'But most of all, you must be kind.' Have you or a family member ever been in hospital? What jobs did the nurses do there? What things did they do that were kind? How important do you think it is that they are kind?
- 3. Do you think Carly did the right thing in staying to read to James?
- 4. What is a dormitory?

Chapter 13

Carly's patient James recovers from his illness, but she learns that many other patients are getting sick. The girls admire the hardworking Florence, and so do the patients. The doctors, on the other hand, don't like having a woman telling them what to do. They also don't like the way she cares for patients who *they* think are poor and worthless. Florence raises her suspicions that important supplies to the hospital are being lost or stolen, and Dr Menzies gets angry. Simone can't take it any more; she tells the doctor angrily that improving hygiene and sewerage will help save lives, but he won't listen. Just then, a new doctor arrives — Dr Sutherland, who tells them he has come to help clean up the hospital.

- 1. Why do the patients call Florence 'the lady with the lamp'? Why do they call her a 'ministering angel'?
- 2. Carly says Simone is brave, and Simone is surprised. What do *you* think? Why?
- 3. Florence says, 'Dr Menzies, these men are our patients. We owe them care and respect.' What do you think she means?
- 4. Simone is frustrated that the doctor won't listen to her or Florence. But Florence says, 'We can't give in to anger. We just have to keep trying.' Do you think she's right? Why/why not? Think about a time when you disagreed with someone and got angry. Did it help to get angry? What are some ways you can settle disagreements without shouting at them?
- 5. Why did the author call this chapter 'Just Women'?

Chapter 14

Dr Sutherland gets to work cleaning the hospital, while Florence tracks down the missing supplies and sets up a system to make sure nothing else gets lost. Carly is worried because Dora is looking thin and tired. She suggests they should go back to the present, but Simone protests. There is still work to do, and the girls don't want to let Florence down. But Carly is missing modern conveniences and is worried about Dora.

- 1. Dr Sutherland and his team finally get the place cleaned up and put in sewerage systems. So why is Simone annoyed? Would you be annoyed if you were her?
- 2. If you went back a hundred years or more, what are some things from modern life you'd miss the most? Make a list.
- 3. Carly is torn between wanting to help in the hospital and wanting to go back to the present. What do you think she should do?

Chapter 15

The girls keep working hard at the hospital, and soldiers keep arriving – but at last, the rate of disease and death starts to fall. Florence falls ill. One day, she receives a diamond brooch from Queen Victoria. She learns that in London they've set up a fund in her name to raise money to train nurses. Their joy at this news is short-lived when Simone gets sick.

- 1. Who was Queen Victoria? Find a picture and write down three facts about her.
- 2. Why would Queen Victoria send Florence a diamond brooch?
- 3. Why would Queen Victoria want to raise money to train nurses?

Chapter 16

Simone is very sick. Carly and Dora nurse her, and they are worried. Afraid that she might die, Carly and Dora decide she needs modern medicine, and take off their shawls and Simone's ribbon so they can all return to the present.

1. When Simone is sick, Florence says 'What she needs is peace.' But Carly and Dora disagree; they know that what she needs is modern medicine. Who is right? Why?

Chapter 17

Carly, Dora and Simone are back in modern-day London, and Simone is recovering in the bedroom of her apartment. Simone's father has taken a week off work to look after her, and Simone's mother takes Carly and Dora out for some sightseeing. They get home to find Simone at the table doing maths with her father. When she is well enough, the girls go for a walk and find the street where Florence Nightingale used to live. Simone wants to go back in time again and, despite Carly's protests, she puts on her lace ribbon. Carly and Dora join her.

- 1. Why is Simone so grumpy?
- 2. What is the London Eye? Find a picture and compare it with the image on page 148.
- 3. What is the Tower of London? Find a picture.

4. Why does Simone want to go back to the past? Why don't Carly and Dora? How would you feel in their situation? Would you want to go back?

Chapter 18

The girls find themselves outside the Burlington Hotel again, back in the olden days. People walk past looking at it, and they realise that time has passed and Florence has become famous. They go in and find Florence studying some papers. She tells them the shocking news that she has learnt: that more soldiers died at her hospital than in any of the other hospitals during the Crimean War. She has discovered that it was only Dr Sutherland's changes that saved them. She is upset by this news, but the girls show her that she can use this new knowledge about sanitation to clean up the cities and save more lives. Satisfied when she agrees, the girls leave her to go back to the present.

- 1. What is a three-piece suit?
- 2. Why doesn't Florence like being famous? Would you like to be famous? Why/why not?
- 3. Florence says she's not a hero. Do you think she is? Why/why not? What makes a person a hero?

Chapter 19

Back in the present, Simone is tired. She agrees to stay home and have a game of Monopoly. The phone rings and disturbs the game, and it turns out to be Bianca wanting Mr Shaw to go to his office for a meeting. He refuses, saying that he is in an important meeting now – spending time with his daughter.

- 1. What is your favourite board game and why?
- 2. How do you think Simone feels when Bianca calls Mr Shaw in for a meeting?
- 3. Why does Mr Shaw say he's already in an important meeting? Is he telling the truth?
- 4. What sort of activities do you like to do when you're spending time with your parents or your siblings, cousins or grandparents?
- 5. How do you think Simone feels at the end of the book?

Name:

4 The Lady with the Lamp



Name	Physical Characteristics	Behaviour/Relationships
Carly		
Dora		
S:		
Simone		
Florence		
Nightingale		
Mr Shaw		
Dr Menzies		

Name:



KWL

#4 The Lady with the Lamp

What I Know About	What I Want to Know	What I Learned About

For further information about

Carly Mills, Pioneer Girl #4 The Lady with the Lamp

please visit

Author website Jane Smith

Carly Mills Website

www.bigskypublishing.com.au

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