The Robinson Crusoe Reader

Written by
Julia Darrow Cowles
Revised and Edited by
Michael J. McHugh
Preface

The wonderful story of Robinson Crusoe has delighted youngsters and adults for several generations. It is commonly regarded as a true classic because it contains an excellent balance of human interest, moral principle, and practical guidance in managing the physical resources of God’s creation.

Instructors should make use of as many of the Supplemental Activities, found on pages 77–89, as possible when their students complete each reading section. These art and craft activities form the basis for delightful and practical instruction that will greatly benefit each child.

It is recommended that the story of Robinson Crusoe first be told by the teacher in a very brief summary fashion. This will arouse the interest of the children and will awaken a desire in them to be able to read the story for themselves.

May the mighty God of heaven and earth grant you success as you study this story with your students.

Michael J. McHugh
Arlington Heights, IL
Robinson Crusoe sailed away on a big ship.
Robinson Crusoe was a boy who lived in England. He loved the water, and he loved the big ships.

Robinson Crusoe loved the water so much that he ran away from home. He ran away from his home in England to sail away on a ship.

The ship had big, white sails, and Robinson Crusoe liked to see them. He liked to see the water and the pretty birds flying over the ship.
The ship’s sails were big and wide. The wind blew softly on the sails as the ship sat in the harbor. Very soon, the ship would set sail so it could dance on the waves.

The next day, the ship sailed away, and Robinson Crusoe was on the ship. He had foolishly run away from home. Robinson Crusoe had left his English home to sail far over the water.

Robinson Crusoe liked the big ship. The wind blew the great white sails. The pretty waves bounced off the ship. Sea birds flew over the ship.
Robinson Crusoe was glad to be on the ship. He liked the blue water and to see the waves dance and toss in the wind.

The ship sailed far away. It sailed far, far over the water. The wind blew the sturdy sails, and the ship sailed fast.

--- 4 ---

Robinson Crusoe was on the ship for many days. He was a long way from his English home. However, he did not think about how sad his parents were when he left home. He was glad he had left his home to go on a big trip.

One day the wind blew hard. The waves grew very big and very high. They did not toss and dance now. They dashed high over the ship. The wind blew very, very hard. Robinson Crusoe began to be afraid. He was afraid of the big waves that came so fast.

--- 5 ---

The wind blew hard, and a great storm came. The big ship was far from Robinson Crusoe’s home. The great waves were dashing over it. Robinson Crusoe was
afraid. He began to be sorry that he had run away from home.

Then a great wave came. It dashed high over the ship, and the ship broke. The waves carried Robinson Crusoe into the water. Oh, how sorry he was that he had left his parents and his home!

Robinson Crusoe tried to swim, but the waves were too big. He went far down into the water and could not breathe. He prayed that God would save him and bring him to land.

Robinson Crusoe could see land not far away. He tried to swim to the land, but the waves dashed over him. Then a big wave came, and the big wave helped Rob-
inson Crusoe. It carried him far toward the land.

Robinson Crusoe tried again to swim, and a great wave helped him again. It carried him safe to the land. The Lord had answered his prayer.

Oh, how glad Robinson Crusoe was to be safe! His ship was broken in the storm. Its white sails could toss and dance no more. But Robinson Crusoe was safe on land, and, oh, how glad he was to be alive!

Robinson Crusoe looked around at the strange land. He walked up and down the shore. Then he climbed to a high hill and saw that he was on an island. The water was all around him. Robinson Crusoe was
alone on a strange island. What could he do now? His ship was broken, and he could not return home.

Robinson Crusoe’s heart began to be sad. His ship was broken, and he had no food and no bed on all the strange land. Where was he to sleep? He was afraid to sleep upon the land. He must sleep in a tree. What an odd bed to sleep in!

With a heavy heart, Robinson Crusoe walked about on the shore. He was shipwrecked on a strange island, and he was tired and hungry. Oh, how he wished that he had not left his English home! If only he had obeyed his dear mother and father!

— 8 —

In the morning, Robinson Crusoe left his bed in the tree and walked down to the shore. The storm was over, and the sun was shining.