

# TEACHER GUIDE: SOKHA FROM CAMBODIA

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## Summary of Sokha's Film Chapter

Sokha was a Cambodian child of the dump: orphaned and forced to pick through garbage to survive. But through a series of fortunate events, Sokha finds her way to school and, like a phoenix, she rises to become a star student on the brink of a once unimaginable future. "This is not the end. It is the beginning." (Sokha)

## Note to Teachers

Sokha's chapter focuses on the issues of poverty, access to education, and the plight of orphans in developing countries. Students are encouraged to examine the negative aspects of Sokha's childhood, and to explore the positive influences in her life.

## Curriculum and Resources Related to Sokha's Chapter

- Sokha's film chapter
- Introductory Lesson (below)
- Film Viewing Guide (below)
- Country Fact Sheet: Cambodia (found in the Resources section)
- Relevant Issue Fact Sheet:
  - Orphans
- Project-Based Lessons (all are applicable to Sokha's chapter)
  - Consumer Impact: How Our \$ Can Make a Difference
  - Display the Numbers: Creating Public Art
  - Supporting a Revolution
  - United Nations \$100 Million Grant
  - What's Working: The Impact of NGOs
  - What is Freedom?
- Take Action Guide (found in the Resources section)
- See Additional Resources Guide for other resources, including relevant videos (found in the Resources section).

## Introducing the Film

Students will begin to learn about the challenges faced by girls living in developing countries, and they'll discover how some are overcoming the barriers and obtaining an education.

## Time Needed

One class period; 50 minutes

## Materials

- Sokha's film chapter
- A copy of the Film Chapter Viewing Guide (below) for each student
- Map/globe

## Common Core State Standards

- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.7.1 Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 7 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.7.2 Analyze the main ideas and supporting details presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) and explain how the ideas clarify a topic, text, or issue under study.
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.8.1 Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 8 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.8.2 Analyze the purpose of information presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) and evaluate the motives (e.g., social, commercial, political) behind its presentation.

## Ideas for Introducing Sokha’s Story to Students

- Locate Cambodia on a map or globe.
- Break the class into small groups and have each describe what they believe life is like in Cambodia.
- Ask small groups to create a graphic depicting who they believe is responsible for caring for orphans. For example: In most cultures, parents are primary caregivers. If parents are unable to care for their children, should extended family (grandparents, aunts/uncles) take responsibility? Would the next option be a charity organization?

## Watching the Film

- Using the Viewing Guide below, ask students to answer the Before You Watch questions prior to watching the film. \*\*\*
- After viewing the film, students should complete the Reflection section. Students can answer these questions on their own, or you may opt for a class discussion around them.
- Encourage students to answer the final question, “What are you interested in learning more about?” Consider student answers when choosing which Project-Based Lesson(s) you will use.

## For an update on Sokha

Go to [www.girlrising.com/meet-the-girls/sokha-in-cambodia/](http://www.girlrising.com/meet-the-girls/sokha-in-cambodia/)

## \*\*\*A Note on Statistics

Statistics regarding out-of-school girls change over time as new information becomes available. See Statistics Used in Girl Rising (found in the Resources section) for updated data.

# FILM VIEWING GUIDE: **SOKHA FROM CAMBODIA**

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## **Before You Watch**

Before you meet Sokha and learn about her experience, take a few minutes to answer the following questions.

1. How many girls do you believe are currently out of school around the world? 5 million, 27 million, or over 62 million?\*\*\*
2. Who do you believe should help children who are orphaned?
3. Who helps you with school? How do they help? (Think about all aspects of your school day, including waking up on time, getting dressed, eating breakfast, getting to school, lunchtime, after-school homework, and so on.)

## **Reflection**

Now that you have had the opportunity to learn about Sokha, answer the following questions:

1. In what ways has going to school changed Sokha's future?
2. What are some ways people could help children living in the dumps of Cambodia?
3. Why do you feel it was important for the film's director to share Sokha's story?
4. How have your views changed? What opinions have remained the same? What new information had the greatest impact on you?
5. What are you interested in learning more about?