

SUMMARIZE: MAIN IDEA & DETAILS

Watch the video about using the main idea and details to summarize.

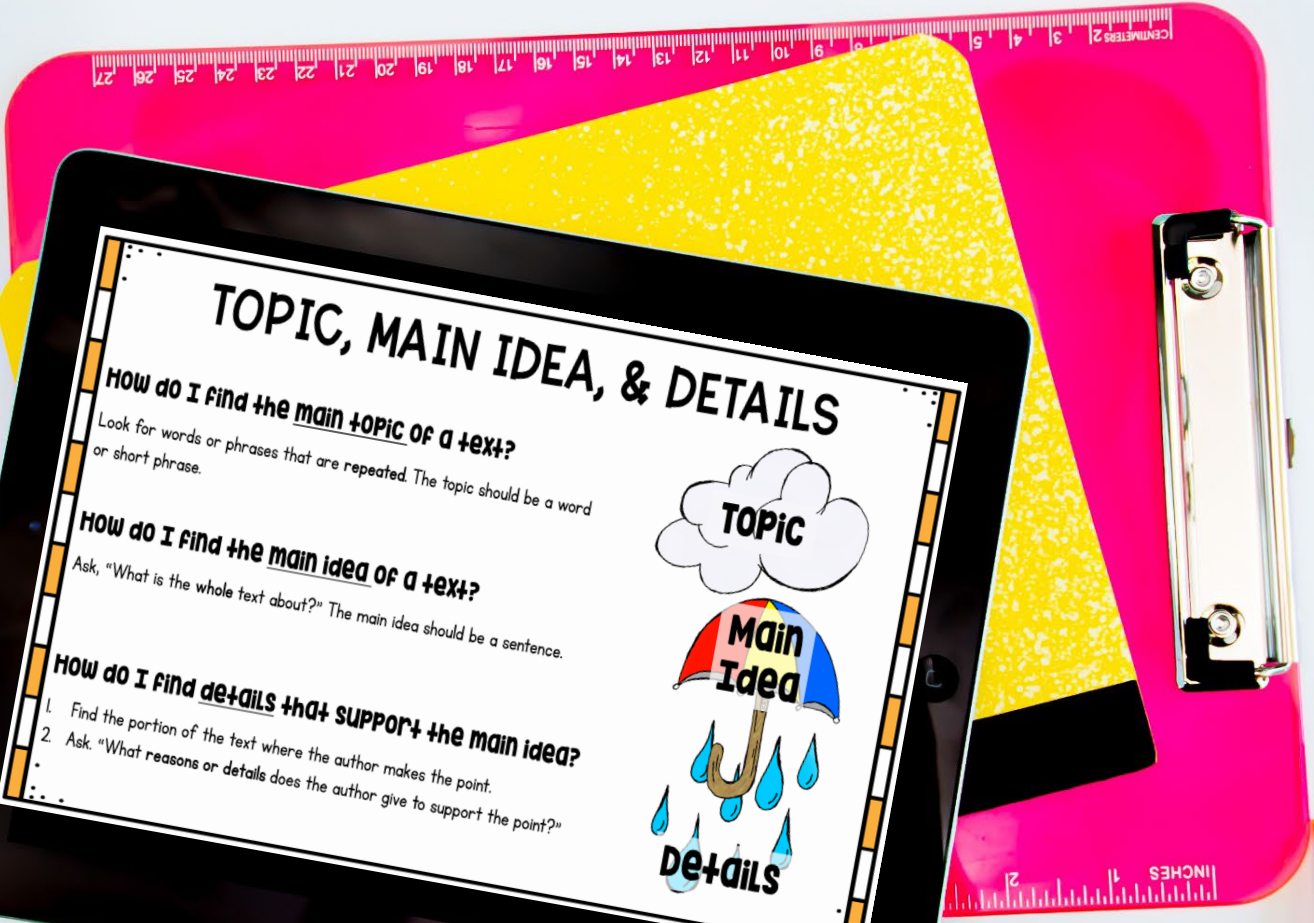


4th & 5th
Grade

Summary & Main Idea in Nonfiction

DIGITAL Mini lessons





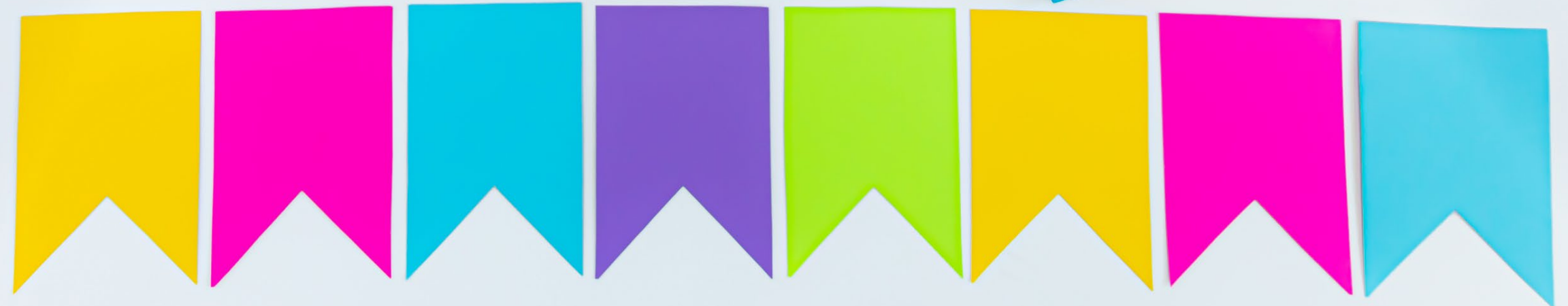
TOPIC, MAIN IDEA, & DETAILS

How do I find the main topic of a text?
Look for words or phrases that are repeated. The topic should be a word or short phrase.

How do I find the main idea of a text?
Ask, "What is the whole text about?" The main idea should be a sentence.

How do I find details that support the main idea?
1. Find the portion of the text where the author makes the point.
2. Ask, "What reasons or details does the author give to support the point?"

The diagram consists of a white cloud at the top with the word 'TOPIC' written inside. Below the cloud is a colorful umbrella with the words 'Main Idea' written on its canopy. From the handle of the umbrella, several blue raindrops are falling, with the word 'Details' written below them.





Let's Read!

Read the page from the book "Lightning". Determine the main idea and details from this paragraph.

Lightning is one of the leading weather-related causes of death and injury. Most people do not realize that they can be struck by lightning even when the center of a thunderstorm is 10 miles away. Talking on the telephone is the leading cause of lightning injuries inside the home. If you are stuck outside, standing under a tall tree is one of the most dangerous places to take shelter.



What is the main idea?

Highlight three supporting details.





Let's Try!

Use the main idea and supporting details to help you summarize the book "Planets" by Gail Gibbons.

The book "Planets" by Gail Gibbons, is about

Listen to the text a few times to check your responses!



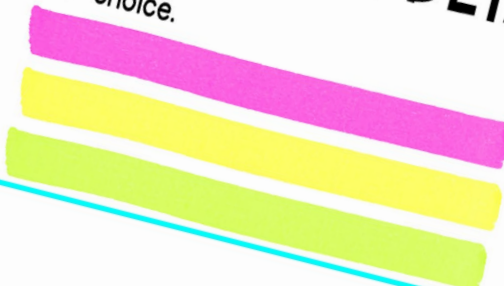
SUMMARIZE with MAIN IDEA, & DETAILS

Write a paragraph about and animal of your choice.

Highlight the topic pink.

Highlight the main idea yellow.

Highlight three supporting details green.

A large, empty rectangular box with a light blue border is provided for writing a paragraph. The box is currently blank.