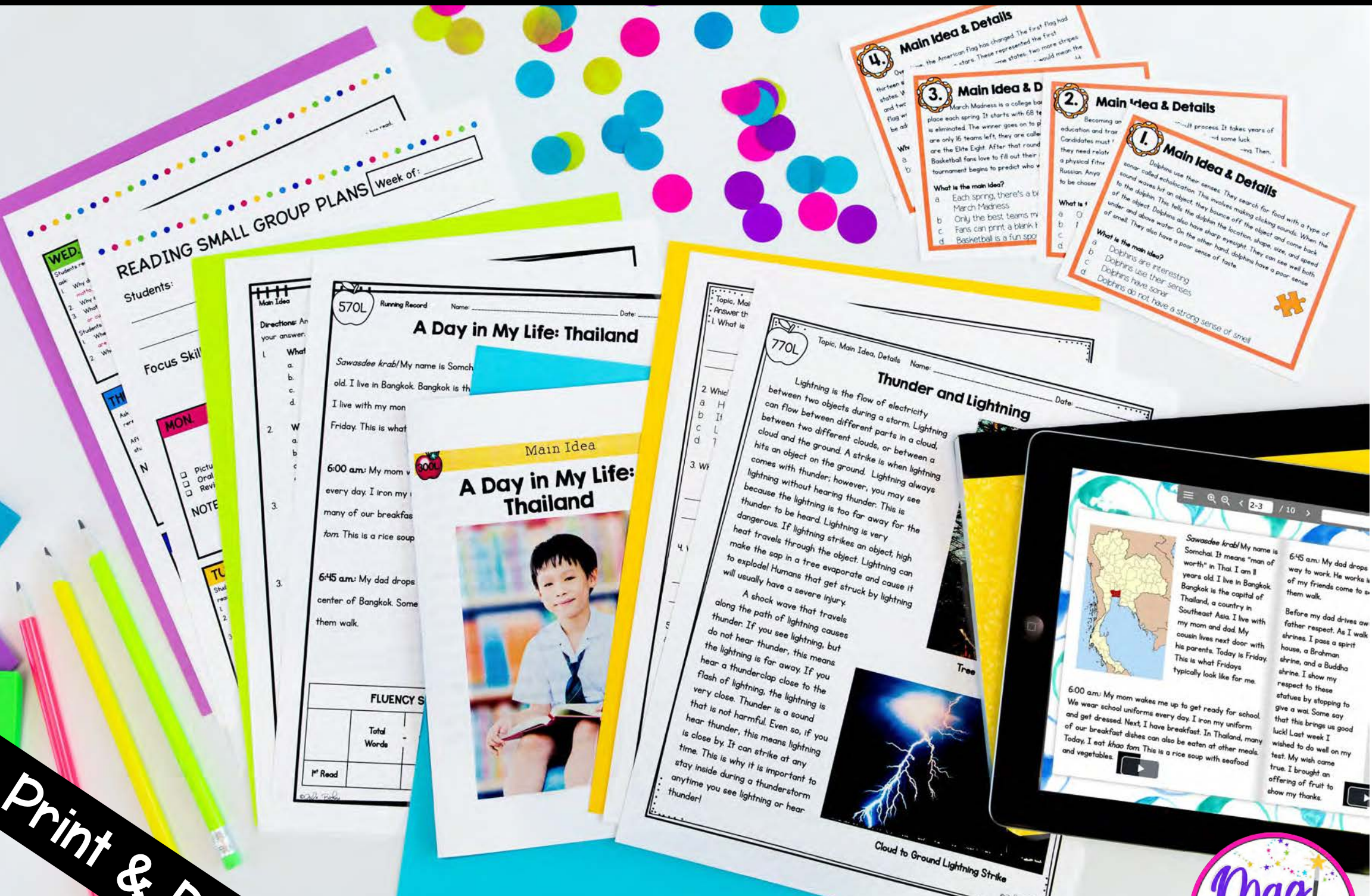


# MAIN IDEA & DETAILS

## ~ Skill Pack ~

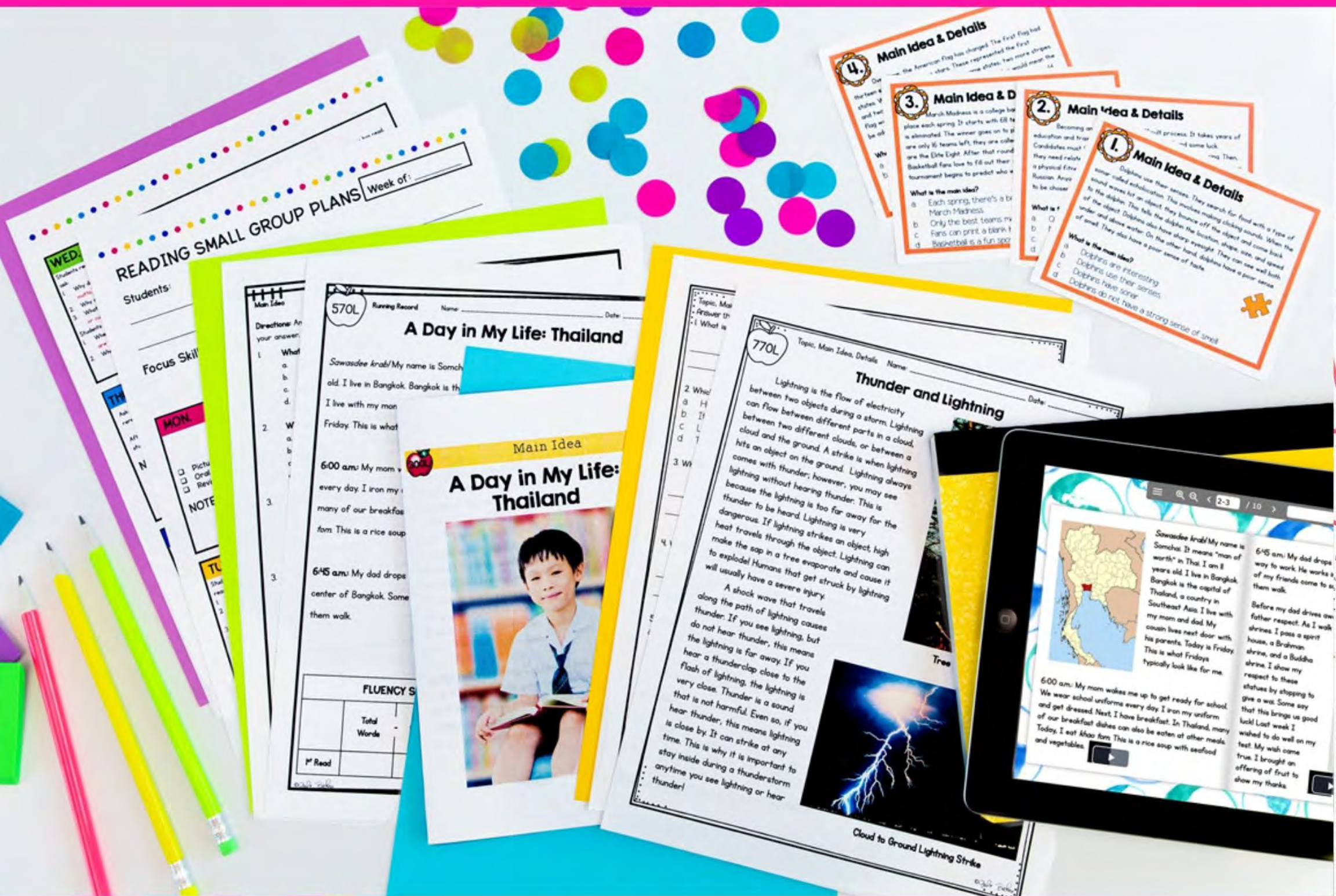


Print & Digital

2nd & 3rd Grade



# Topic, Main Idea & Details



Printable & Digital Resources for  
Classroom & Distance Learning Success

# GUIDED READERS

## Printable & Digital



2nd - 3rd  
Grade



main idea & details

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Answer the following questions based on the text. Be sure to go back into the text to support your answer.

**Main Idea**

1. What is the topic of the text?
- Somchai
  - Thailand
  - Bangkok
  - life in Thailand

2. What is the main idea of the text?
- Somchai is a typical Friday.
  - Somchai, who lives in Thailand.
  - Bangkok is the capital of Thailand.
  - Thailand is a country in Southeast Asia.

3. Why is the text titled "A Day in My Life: Thailand"?
- There are many people in Thailand.
  - Somchai lives in Thailand.
  - The text describes a typical day in Thailand.
  - Somchai is a typical Friday.

4. Which of the following is NOT a detail from the text?
- Somchai lives in Bangkok.
  - Somchai is 11 years old.
  - Somchai lives with his parents.
  - Somchai has a cousin who lives next door.

Respect shows \_\_\_\_\_

570L Running Record Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## A Day in My Life: Thailand

Sawasdee krab! My name is Somchai. It means "man of worth" in Thai. I am 11 years old. I live in Bangkok. Bangkok is the capital of Thailand, a country in Southeast Asia. I live with my mom and dad. My cousin lives next door with his parents. Today is Friday. This is what Fridays typically look like for me.

6:00 am: My mom wakes me up every day. I iron my uniform and wash my uniform. There are many of our breakfast dishes in Thailand. This is a rice soup with chicken.

6:45 am: My dad drops me at school. I live in the center of Bangkok. Some of the buildings are very tall. They make them walk.

FLUENCY	
	Total Words
1st Read	

570L Main Idea

## A Day in My Life: Thailand



Common Core Kingdom

READING S

Stude

Focus

WED.

Students read

ask:

- Why do they have this motto?
- Why does Somchai like to eat this?
- What does Somchai like to eat (or curry)?

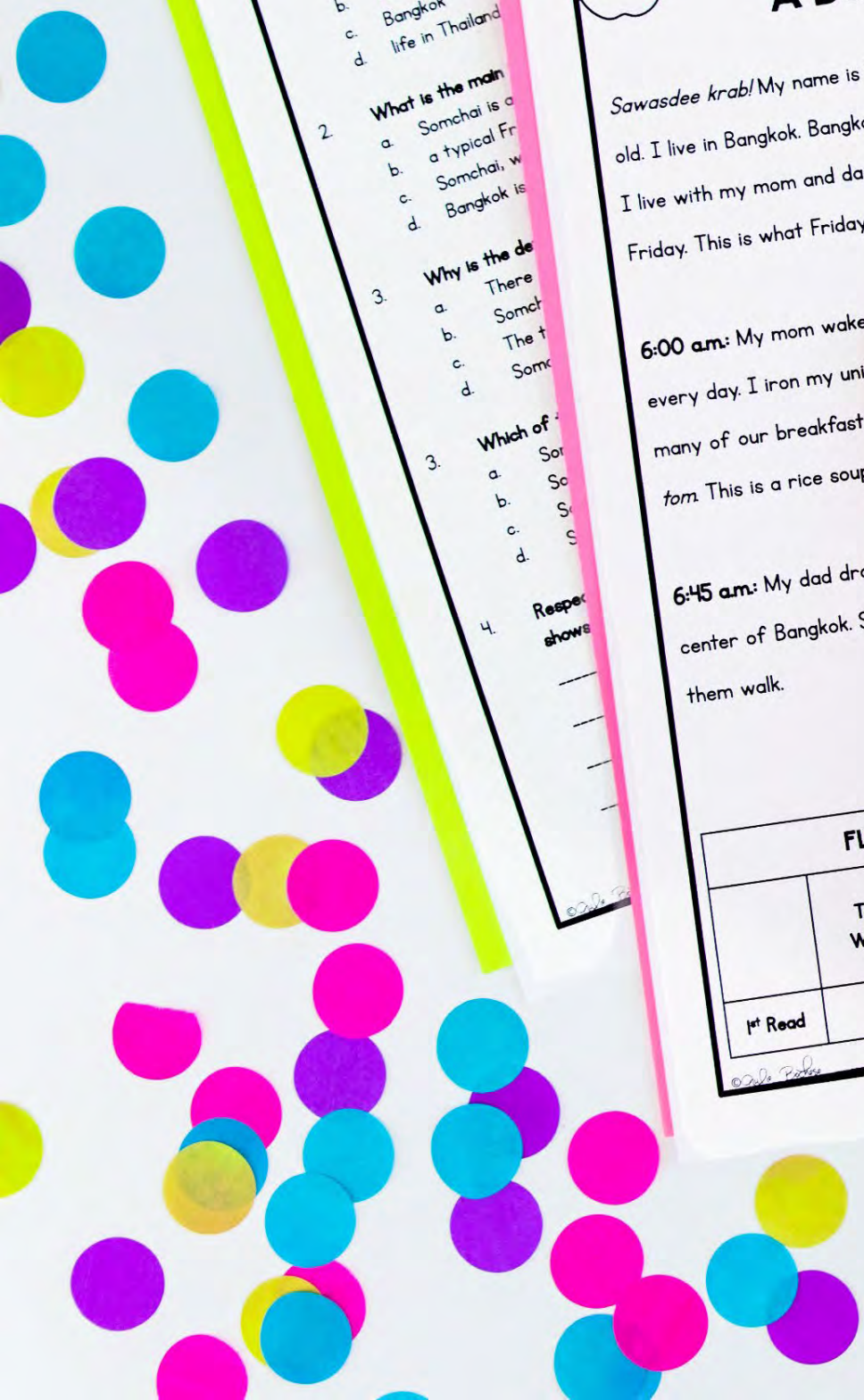
Students read page

- When does Somchai wake up?
- What is his evening routine and then he eats and play games, and

THURS. Af

Ask students to reread the text and rereading, the group will reteach.

After all students have





### Main Idea

Directions: Answer the following questions based on the text. Be sure to go back into the text to support your answer.

1. What is the topic of the text?

- a. Somchai
- b. Thailand
- c. Bangkok
- d. life in Thailand

2. What is the main idea of the text?

- a. Somchai is a typical Friday.
- b. Somchai, who lives in Bangkok, is a typical Friday.
- c. Somchai, who lives in Bangkok, is a typical Friday.
- d. Bangkok is a typical Friday.

3. Why is the text titled "A Day in My Life: Thailand"?

- a. There are many different types of food in Thailand.
- b. Somchai is a typical Friday.
- c. The text describes a typical Friday in Thailand.
- d. Somchai is a typical Friday.

3. Which of the following is a typical Friday in Thailand?

- a. Somchai is a typical Friday.
- b. Somchai, who lives in Bangkok, is a typical Friday.
- c. Somchai, who lives in Bangkok, is a typical Friday.
- d. Somchai is a typical Friday.

4. Respect shows

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

570L

Running Record

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## A Day in My Life: Thailand

*Sawasdee krab!* My name is Somchai. It means "man of worth" in Thai. I am 11 years old. I live in Bangkok. Bangkok is the capital of Thailand, a country in Southeast Asia. I live with my mom and dad. My cousin lives next door with his parents. Today is Friday. This is what Fridays typically look like for me.

**6:00 am:** My mom wakes me up to get ready for school. We wear uniforms every day. I iron my uniform and get dressed. Next, I have breakfast. Many of our breakfast dishes can also be eaten at other meals. Today we eat *tom*. This is a rice soup with seafood and vegetables.

**6:45 am:** My dad drops me off at school. He is on his way to work in the center of Bangkok. Some of my friends come to school by bus.



sonar can sound waves to the bottom of the ocean under the surface of the sea.

What

- a.
- b.


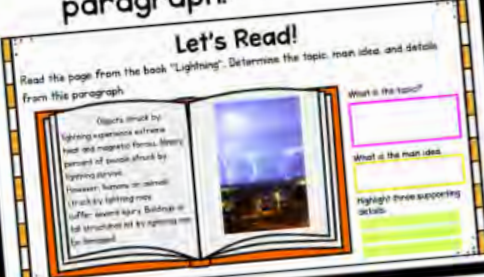


# LESSON PLANS

2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> GRADE

Week 1



COMPREHENSION SKILL: Topic, Main Idea, & Details

	LESSON	PRACTICE	GUIDED READING	CENTER
MONDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduce what topic, main idea, and details are.</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Model how to determine topic, main idea, and details from a single paragraph.</li> </ul> 	<p>"A Day in My Life: Thailand" leveled guided readers.</p> <p>Meet with two groups and complete "pre-reading" activities."</p>	<p>Task Cards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme</li> </ul> 
TUESDAY	<p>Guided Practice Whole Class</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review what topic, main idea, and details are.</li> <li>Model how to determine the topic, main idea, and details from the book "Here We Are".</li> </ul>	<p>Independent Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Choice text to read independently and practice determining the topic, main idea, and details.</li> </ul>	<p>Read pages 1-4 of "A Day in My Life: Thailand" leveled guided readers. Complete "During Reading" discussions.</p> 	
WEDNESDAY	<p>Guided Practice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read and determine the topic, main idea, and details of "Cool Cars" by Seymour Simon.</li> </ul>	<p>Independent Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Choice text to read independently and practice determining the topic, main idea, and details.</li> </ul>	<p>Read pages 5-9 of "A Day in My Life: Thailand" leveled guided readers. Complete "During Reading" discussions.</p>	

## Let's Read!

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

Objects struck by lightning experience extreme heat and magnetic forces. Ninety percent of people struck by lightning survive. However, humans or animals struck by lightning may suffer severe injury. Buildings or tall structures hit by lightning can be damaged.



What is the topic?

What is the main idea.

Highlight three supporting details.

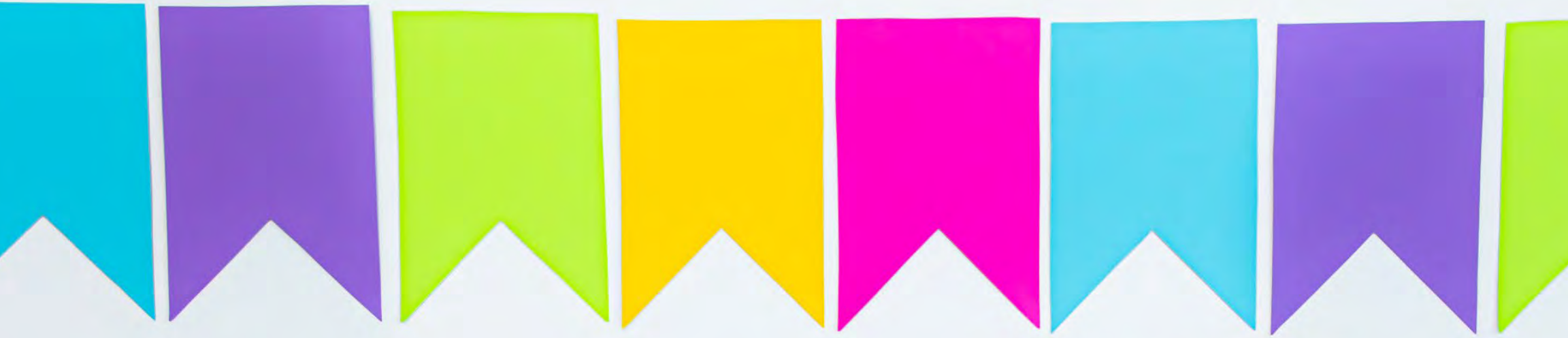
  
  

2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Grade

Main Idea & Details

**DIGITAL** Mini lessons





TOPIC, MAIN IDEA, & DETAILS

Watch the video about topic, main idea, and supporting details.

SCISSORS

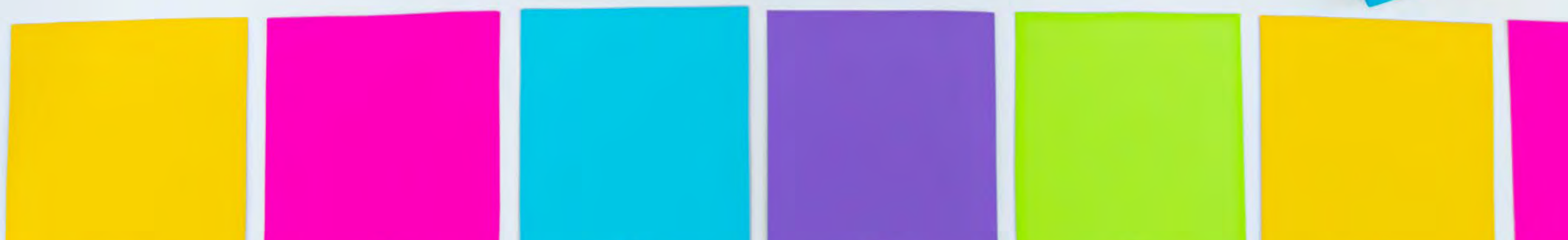
CENTIMETERS 2 3 4 5

INCHES 1 2

CLIPBOARD

PENCILS

STICKERS





## Let's Try!

Identify the topic, main idea, and details of the book you read.

• What is the topic? (1-2 words)

• What is the main idea? (1 sentence)

• What are three supporting details?









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



## Time to Practice!

Select a story from your library or the recommended audio book list. Practice determining the topic, main idea, and supporting details below:

Topic

Main Idea

Detail #1

Detail #2

Detail #3



# TOPIC, MAIN IDEA, & DETAILS

Write a paragraph about an 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 positioned below the instructions on the tablet. This box is intended for the student to write their paragraph about an animal of their choice.

NONFICTION

2<sup>ND</sup> & 3<sup>RD</sup> GRADE

RI.2.2 / 3.2

# TOPIC, MAIN IDEA, DETAILS



Topic, Main Idea, Details Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Level:** 710

## The Amish Way of Life

The Amish, or the Pennsylvania Dutch, are a group of Christian people who live in America. They live very simply. The Amish speak Pennsylvania Dutch. Pennsylvania Dutch is their own language that came from Swiss German. Over 165,000 Amish live in the United States, and 1,500 live in Canada. The population of Amish in the West is continuing to grow. 80% of the Amish population lives in Pennsylvania.

The Amish have stringent rules. The church has rules about how to live daily life. Electricity, phones, and cars are prohibited. Instead of cars, people use horses and buggies. Clothes are also regulated. They are only allowed to wear plain colors. If a member does not live by the church's expectations, they are shunned. Being shunned means they are rejected by all of the other members of their Amish community until they make up for their wrongdoings. Amish who do not make up for their wrongdoings are excommunicated. Excommunicated members are thrown out of their community.

The Amish community has their own schools. Many of these schools are one-room schoolhouses. One teacher teaches children of all ages in one classroom. Unmarried Amish women teach Amish schools. There are about 30 children in a class. Children learn English, reading, writing, math, and history at school. Children usually stop going to school after 8th grade. After 8th grade, they focus on helping their family with daily tasks such as farming and household duties.

Amish women are responsible for their family. They also take care of the church and community needs. Amish women run their homes, cook, make and wash clothes, and help neighbors. Amish women are expected to obey their husbands. Amish men tend to be farmers. They grow crops and raise livestock to support their family and community. Since they are prohibited from using electricity, the Amish use horses to help with their farms.

Amish life is different from people who live life as modern Americans. Amish thrive. They have a strong community and take care of each other.

1. What is the topic of this text?  
 (a) Amish people  
 (b) Where Amish live  
 (c) Amish schools  
 (d) Amish rules

2. Which sentence best tells the main idea of this text?  
 a The Amish have very strict rules  
 b The Amish have very simple lives  
 c The Amish focus their lives around their family and community  
 (d) The Amish people have a different way of life from modern Americans

3. What details helped you determine the main idea?  
 The Amish speak Pennsylvania Dutch. The Amish have very strict rules. Many Amish men tend to be farmers.

4. What is the main idea of paragraph 2?  
 The main idea of paragraph two is that the Amish have very strict rules.

5. Which detail could the author add to paragraph 4 to support the main idea? (Choose all that apply).  
 (a) Some Amish men are carpenters  
 (b) Amish children often walk to school  
 (c) Amish women are responsible for caring for children  
 (d) Amish people gather in their homes to practice their religion

6. What is the main idea of paragraph 4?  
 (a) Amish men and women have different roles  
 (b) The Amish community has their own schools  
 (c) Amish women are responsible for their family  
 (d) The Amish way of life is different than people who live in modern times

Print & Digital



# WHAT'S INCLUDED?

TWELVE 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade **DIGITAL** and **PRINTABLE** PDF nonfiction passages & **TWO** assessments!

- Aligned with 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Lexile Levels
- Includes an RI.2.2/RI.3.2 Anchor Chart
- Students can highlight the text for easy comprehension

Created with  
**GOOGLE  
SLIDES**

TOPIC, MAIN IDEA, DETAILS

*2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> grade*

## Table of Contents

\*This product includes 12 Lexile<sup>®</sup> leveled passages in the 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Common Core Text Complexity Band (the range for 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grade is 420L-820L). Each passage and question set is two pages long.

1. [Topic, Main Idea, Details Anchor Chart \(2 pgs.\)](#)
2. [Main Idea Puzzle \(1 pg.\)](#)
3. [The Amish Way of Life- 470L](#)
4. [Mercury- 480L](#)
5. [Harriet Tubman- 510L](#)





The **American Black Bear** lives in North America. They are the smallest and most common bear found in North America. Black bears are also not always black. They can be white, blond, or brown. They usually live in large forests; however, they sometimes leave the woods to search for food. Sometimes they enter areas populated by humans in search of food. Black bears have been known to open doors and jars. They are powerful and can weigh between 90 and 551 pounds. Black bears are omnivores. This means they eat both plants and animals.



The **polar bear** lives in the Arctic Circle. Along with some brown bears, they are the largest land mammals. Polar bears can weigh 770-1,500 pounds. Polar bears are white. They have long, shaggy fur to help them walk on snow and ice and to swim. Most polar bears spend most of their time in the ocean. They are carnivores. Their main source of food is seals. Polar bears have adapted to frigid temperatures with a thick layer of blubber, or fat, that helps them stay warm. Climate change threatens polar bears because it causes the ice to melt, which is a threat to polar bear's survival.



Level: 400

Topic, Main Idea, Details Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Bears

Bears are mammals that live in many different climates around the world. Different species of bears survive in various habitats. Bears have been around since prehistoric times. Humans have hunted them for their meat and fur. Today, bears are threatened because humans are taking over their habitats. Brown bears are the largest land predator on earth. They live in northern Europe, Asia, and North America. Despite their name, brown bears are not always brown. Brown bears in India are red. In North America, they can range from a cream color to almost black. They have long and thick fur. They also have large claws. Brown bears are unable to climb trees because their claws are dull. Brown bears have a wide range in size. They can weigh between 120 to 1,500 pounds.



Brown bear

Topic, Main Idea, Details

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated.

1. What is the topic of this text? Use text evidence to support your answer.  
The topic of the text is bears. I know this because the title is Bears and the word bear is repeated numerous times.

2. Which sentence best tells the main idea of this text?

- a Bears are many different colors
- b There are different types of bears.
- c Humans are taking over the habitats of bears
- d Brown bears and polar bears are the largest land mammals

3. What details helped you determine the main idea?

Paragraph 2 is about brown bears. Paragraph 3 is about the American Black Bear. Paragraph 4 is about Polar bears.

4. What is the main idea of paragraph 2?

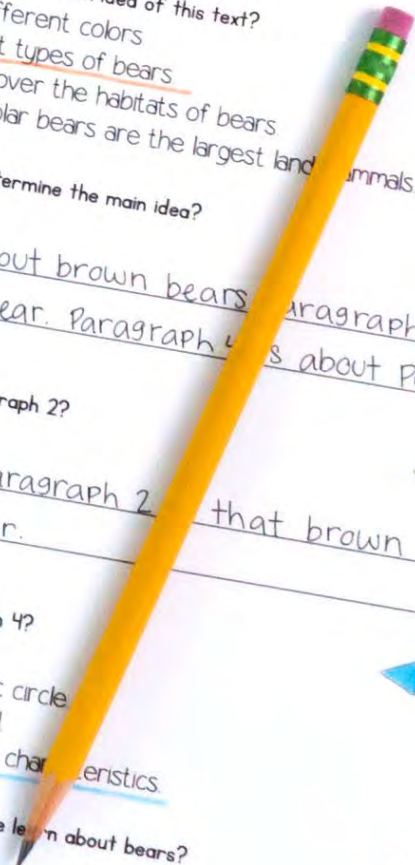
The main idea of paragraph 2 is that brown bears are one type of bear.

What is the main idea of paragraph 4?

Polar bears are white  
Polar bears live in the arctic circle  
Polar bears are endangered  
Polar bears have interesting characteristics

According to the author, why should we learn about bears?

- b Bears can be dangerous
- c Bears are very interesting
- d There are many different types of bears
- e We can reduce the effect we have on bears and their habitats



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# NONFICTION PASSAGES

Color-coded highlighting supports student comprehension. In Google Slides, students can highlight as they read!

480L

Topic, Main Idea, Details Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Mercury

Mercury is the closest planet to the sun. Mercury is named after a Roman god. A year on Mercury lasts 88 earth days. Mercury completes a rotation once every two years. Therefore, Mercury has only one day in two earth years! A day on Mercury is twice as long as a year on Earth!

Mercury is the smallest planet in our solar system. Mercury is rocky. The rocks make this planet gray. Mercury has craters. Craters make it look like the moon. The craters are caused by comets and asteroids. Mercury has no rings or moons. The temperature on Mercury varies. It can be as cold as -280 degrees Fahrenheit at night. It can be as warm as 800 degrees Fahrenheit during the day. There is no atmosphere. This means that there is no weather on Mercury.

Two spacecraft have visited Mercury. In 1970, Mariner 10 flew by Mercury. Mariner 10 took pictures. These pictures helped us understand Mercury's surface, atmosphere, and temperature. In 2004, Messenger flew around Mercury more than 4,000 times. It mapped the planet. This spacecraft also discovered ice on Mercury. Messenger ran out of fuel. It crashed into the planet.

We still have a lot to learn about Mercury. You can see Mercury from earth at times. The best times to look are morning or evening.



View of Mercury from Mariner 10

Mariner 10 launch

©Julie Bochesse

After reading, students type their answers in the text boxes using text evidence.

Topic, Main Idea, Details

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated.

1. What is the topic of this text?

- a. Space
- b. Mercury
- c. Planets in our solar system
- d. Mercury and Earth

2. Which sentence best tells the main idea of this text?

- a. Mercury is closest to the sun.
- b. Two spacecraft visited Mercury.
- c. There is a lot to learn about Mercury.
- d. Planets are interesting to learn about.

3. What details helped you determine the main idea?

Students type their answers right in the text box.

4. What is the main idea of paragraph 2?

- a. What Mercury looks like and its climate.
- b. Mercury looks similar to the moon.
- c. Mercury's temperature can be very cold or very hot.
- d. Mariner 10 took photographs of Mercury.

5. What is the main idea of paragraph 3?

6. How did Messenger help us learn about Mercury? (Choose all that apply)

- a. Messenger mapped the entire planet.
- b. Messenger discovered ice on Mercury.
- c. Messenger helped us learn about Mercury's temperature.
- d. Messenger orbited around Mercury more than 4,000 times.

©Julie Bochesse

# ASSESSMENTS

750L

Topic, Main Idea, Details Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## TEST


Labor Day is a holiday that celebrates the things workers have done to make the United States the strong country it is today. Labor Day is celebrated

670L

Topic, Main Idea, Details Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_


## TEST: The Tower of London

**The Tower of London is an old historic castle.** It is next to the River Thames in London. This castle was founded in 1066. It holds a lot of history for the city of London.



**The Tower of London used to be a grand palace.** There are numerous buildings surrounded by defensive walls and a moat. Royals lived here. Kings Richard the Lionheart, Henry III, and Edward I expanded this palace.


The castle was also used as a fortress. Guns were placed around the castle. Weapons and ammunition were stored here as well.



**The Tower of London was used as a prison from 1100 to 1952.** Elizabeth I was a prisoner here before she became queen. During World War I and World War II, the tower was used as a prison for spies.

During World War II, bombs damaged the castle and destroyed buildings. After World War II, the castle was repaired and reopened to the public.

Visitors of London flock to the Tower of London. **It is one of the most popular tourist attractions.** Over 2 million people visit each year! Visitors to the castle can see royal armor and the Crown Jewels. The Crown Jewels are crowns worn by previous and current royalty. The Tower of London is now a protected World Heritage Site.



**Outside View of the Tower of London**


**Prison in the Tower**

**Crown Jewels**


Color coded highlighting can also be done on the assessments!

Topic, Main Idea, Details

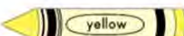
Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated.


1. What is the topic of this text? Use text evidence to support your answer. 

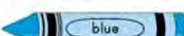
Students type their answers right in the text box.

2. Which sentence best tells the main idea of this text? 

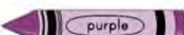
a. The Tower of London was used as a prison.  
b. The Tower of London houses the Crown Jewels.  
c. The Tower of London is a popular tourist destination.  
d. The Tower of London is important to the history of London.

3. What details helped you determine the main idea? 

4. What is the main idea of paragraph 2? 

5. Which detail could the author add to paragraph 4 to support the main idea that *The Tower of London was used as a prison*? (Choose all that apply) 

a. Six Ravens still live at the tower today.  
b. Anne Boleyn was also a prisoner at The Tower.  
c. There was once a collection of wild animals at The Tower.  
d. Seven people were killed in the tower before World War I.

6. What is the main idea of paragraph 6? 

a. The Tower of London was once a prison.  
b. The Tower of London is a popular tourist attraction.  
c. The Crown Jewels can be seen at the Tower of London.  
d. Bombs struck the Tower of London during World War II.

© Julie Boehse

This resource also includes TWO tests with different Lexile Levels for student assessment.

## Main Idea & Details

Contrary to what you may have heard, snakes cannot actually bite their jaw. Instead, the bones and ligaments around the snake's jaw are flexible. They stretch freely around the snake's prey. Small snakes eat animals that look much larger than the snakes themselves. Large snakes can swallow an egg or a mouse. Small snakes are known to swallow deer, pigs, and crocodiles.

- What is the main idea?
- a Snakes have flexible bones in their jaw and skull.
  - b Not all snakes have to eat live animals.
  - c There are many myths about snakes.
  - d Snakes are adapted to swallow large prey.

## 29. Main Idea & Details

Sitting Bull was chosen to become chief of the Sioux tribes in 1868. They made peace with the US government that same year. A treaty said the land in South Dakota belonged to the Native Americans. That peace ended when gold was found in the Black Hills. White men moved into South Dakota in search of gold. The government allowed them onto Native land. Sitting Bull led the Sioux people in defending their land.

- What is the main idea?
- a The US government didn't keep its promise.
  - b Gold has caused many conflicts throughout history.
  - c The Sioux tribes chose Sitting Bull as their chief.
  - d Sitting Bull led the Sioux during a hard time.

## Main Idea & Details

Schools that follow a five-day schedule have costs for each of five days. They use heat and electricity five days a week. They have to pay bus drivers, custodians, and cooks for five days of work. If the school district cut one day a week, it could save money by cutting down on these costs. School districts would only have to pay for four days of work. They wouldn't have to pay bus drivers, custodians, and cooks as much as they do now. Teachers could still use the fifth day to work from home.

- What is the main idea?
- a There are advantages to a 4-day school week.
  - b School staff get paid too much for working 5 days.
  - c Students would prefer a 4-day school week.
  - d It is very expensive to run a school.

## 17. Main Idea & Details

The Eiffel Tower in Paris was never meant to be a permanent fixture. It was built as an exhibition for the 1889 World Fair. After more than two years of construction, the tower was unveiled. It was supposed to be taken down after the Fair, but then the newly-invented radio became popular. It was decided that the tall metal structure would make an excellent radio tower. Now, it is one of the most popular tourist attractions in the world.

- What is the main idea?
- a The 1889 World Fair was held in Paris.
  - b The Eiffel Tower took more than 2 years to build.
  - c You should go to Paris to visit the Eiffel Tower.
  - d The role of the Eiffel Tower changed over time.

## 18. Main Idea & Details

Want to ride the world's tallest roller coaster? Then visit Six Flags in Jackson, New Jersey. It's home to Kingda Ka. It takes riders high into the air and then drops them 418 feet down the track. The roller coaster reaches a speed of 128 miles per hour and is over in less than a minute. Only time will tell if Kingda Ka will keep its title. Skyplex in Orlando, Florida has announced plans for a new ride called Skyscraper. It will drop riders 570 feet from a tower.

- What is the main idea?
- a One roller coaster can reach speeds of 128 mph.
  - b Jackson, New Jersey is a fun place to visit.
  - c Kingda Ka is the tallest roller coaster in the world.
  - d The world's tallest roller coaster is Skyscraper.

## 19. Main Idea & Details

Lots of schools no longer teach cursive writing, but it's important that everyone should learn. Doing so will keep the knowledge alive. If we stop learning and using cursive, we might someday forget how to read. Historical documents will become impossible to read. Cursive is fun to learn and beautiful to look at. It's also faster than printing once you're good at it.

- What is the main idea?
- a There are many reasons to keep teaching cursive.
  - b People don't use cursive because they use electronic devices.
  - c Many historical documents are written in cursive.
  - d Cursive is faster to write than printing.

## Answer Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Card #	Answer	Card #	Answer
1.	b	16.	b
2.	d	17.	d
3.	a	18.	
4.	b	19.	
5.	c	20.	d
6.	a	21.	c
7.	d	22.	b
8.	b	23.	c
9.	c	24.	d
10.	c	25.	a
11.	a	26.	c
12.		27.	b
13.		28.	c
14.	c	29.	d
15.	d	30.	a

## Main Idea & Details Challenge

Write 1-3 supporting details for each passage.



## Main Idea & Details



### 15. Main Idea & De

Lunch from the school cafeteria of lunch from home. Most cafeterias offer a might be meatloaf or tacos or chicken. The choose from as well. Many schools offer PB & J, or yogurt lunch every day. When they might not have that many different op it's the same turkey and cheese sandwich

**What is the main idea?**

- a. Save money by packing your own lunch
- b. Students love delicious school lunches
- c. School lunches are healthier than lunches from home
- d. School lunches have more variety

### 16.

Yo made? Fir machine c material. pencils an added to

**What is t**

- a. Kids love school lunches
- b. The school cafeteria is a fun place to visit
- c. People love school lunches
- d. You might like working in a pencil factory

### 17.

The fixture. It more than supposed radio bec would mak popular to

**What is t**

- a. The role of the Eiffel Tower changed over time
- b. The Eiffel Tower is a fun place to visit
- c. You might like working in a pencil factory
- d. The world's tallest roller coaster is Skyscraper

### 18.

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**What is t**

- a. One roller coaster can reach speeds of 128 mph
- b. Jackson, New Jersey is a fun place to visit
- c. Kingda Ka is the tallest roller coaster in the world
- d. The world's tallest roller coaster is Skyscraper



# Ways to Use Task Cards

1. **Centers**
2. **Scoot:** Pass out one card for each student. Set a timer and say, “scoot!” when the timer goes off. Students move seats to the next card. They continue to rotate until they are back at their original seat.
3. **Scavenger Hunt:** Hide cards around the room. Students search for cards and answer them.
4. **Jenga:** Number Jenga blocks. Students stack the blocks, then take turns pulling blocks. Students answer the corresponding number card.
5. **Whole class practice:** Teacher displays card on the projector. Students answer on mini white boards.
6. **Exit Tickets:** Give each student a task card at the end of the lesson. Have them answer on a sticky note.



## 1. Main Idea & Details

Dolphins use their senses. They search for food with a type of sonar called echolocation. This involves making clicking sounds. When the sound waves hit an object, they bounce off the object and come back to the dolphin. This tells the dolphin the location, shape, size, and speed of the object. Dolphins also have sharp eyesight. They can see well both under and above water. On the other hand, dolphins have a poor sense of smell. They also have a poor sense of taste.

What is the main idea?

- a. Dolphins are interesting.
- b. Dolphins use their senses.
- c. Dolphins have sonar.
- d. Dolphins do not have a strong sense of smell.



## 2. Main Idea & Details

Becoming an astronaut is a difficult process. It takes years of education and training. It also takes a lot of skill and some luck. Candidates must have a degree in math, science, or engineering. Then, they need related work experience. All astronaut candidates must pass a physical fitness test. Today, astronauts must also be able to speak Russian. Anyone who meets those requirements might be lucky enough to be chosen for the handful of spots in NASA's astronaut program.

What is the text mainly about?

- a. Only scientists can become astronauts.
- b. NASA is in need of astronaut candidates.
- c. Astronauts must be able to speak Russian.
- d. It takes skill and training to become an astronaut.



## 3. Main Idea & Details

March Madness is a college basketball tournament that takes place each spring. It starts with 68 teams. After each game, the loser is eliminated. The winner goes on to play another winner. When there are only 16 teams left, they are called the Sweet Sixteen. Then, there are the Elite Eight. After that round, it's down to the Final Four. Basketball fans love to fill out their own brackets before the tournament begins to predict who will win.

What is the main idea?

- a. Each spring, there's a basketball tournament called March Madness.
- b. Only the best teams make it to the Final Four.
- c. Fans can print a blank bracket form online to use.
- d. Basketball is a fun sport.



## 4. Main Idea & Details

Over time, the American flag has changed. The first flag had thirteen stripes and thirteen stars. These represented the first states. When Vermont and Kentucky became states, two more stripes and two more stars were added. But additional states would mean the flag was too crowded with stripes. It was decided that a star would be added for each new state, but the stripes would remain at thirteen.

What is the main idea?

- a. The United States was once thirteen colonies.
- b. The number of stars and stripes on the American flag has changed in the past.
- c. The flag has one stripe for each original state.
- d. The American flag should never touch the ground.



2<sup>nd</sup> / 3<sup>rd</sup>

Grade

# Main Idea Reading Task Cards

30 Cards

Includes an

audio reading of  
each passage.

## Main Idea & Details

Contrary to what you may have heard, snakes cannot actually dislocate their jaw. Instead, the bones and ligaments around the snake's skull and jaw are flexible. They stretch freely around the snake's prey. This allows snakes to eat animals that look much larger than the snakes are. Small snakes can swallow an egg or a mouse. Large snakes have been known to swallow deer, pigs, and crocodiles.

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What is the main idea?

Snakes have flexible bones in their jaw and skull.

Not all snakes have to eat live animals.

There are myths about snakes.

Snakes are adapted to swallow large prey.



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# BOOM CARDS

# MAIN IDEA BOOM CARDS



## Main Idea & Details

 Dolphins use their senses. They search for food with a type of sonar called echolocation. This involves making clicking sounds. When the sound waves hit an object, they bounce off the object and come back to the dolphin. This tells the dolphin the location, shape, size, and speed of the object. Dolphins also have sharp eyesight. They can see well both under and above water. On the other hand, dolphins have a poor sense of smell. They also have a poor sense of taste.

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What's the main idea?

Dolphins are interesting.

Dolphins use their senses.

Dolphins have sonar.

~~Dolphins do not have a strong sense of smell.~~

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