



Main Idea

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Language Arts
Grades K-2



Introduction

Students will be able to identify the main idea of text as well as supporting details in a text. They will do this by watching a video and identifying the main idea using supporting details, finding the main idea of a mystery bag, as well as working independently to choose the main idea and supporting details of a passage.

Learning Objectives

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.3.2](#); Students will be able to determine the main idea of a text as well as recount the supporting details.

Materials Needed

- A one-minute video of any concept (commercial, music video, etc.)
- Main idea mystery bags and materials for each bag
- [Main idea storms worksheet](#) and [main idea carnival worksheet](#)

Procedure

To activate prior knowledge, ask students to name a few things that have to do with breakfast. As students answer write it on the board. Then discuss how students just listed details that support the main topic which is breakfast. Instruct students that today they will be identifying the main idea and supporting details of a topic and text. Next, discuss how the main idea is one idea that a passage is mostly about. Discuss how participating in activities such as watching videos and finding the main idea of a mystery bag will help them understand the main idea of passage.

Activity 1: Video

1. Play a one-minute video on any concept or topic that you'd like. This can be a commercial, music video, or anything that you want.
2. Next, ask students questions about the video. "What is the main idea?" and "What are the supporting details?"

Activity 2: Storm Worksheet

1. Once students have an idea of what "main idea" and the supporting details are all about. Next, hand out the storm worksheet to complete as a class.

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2. Read the passage together as a class and ask for volunteers to help answer the questions.

Activity 3: Mystery bags

1. Using a model mystery bag, show students what their challenge is once you break them into small groups. For your model bag, take out items one-by-one and show them to the class. For example, you would hold up a smock, paint, pencils, paper, etc.
2. Then, ask students what they think the main idea of your mystery bag is (art tools). Instruct students that the contents of the bag are the supporting details and “art tools” is the main idea.
3. Next, break students into small groups and give each group a different main idea mystery bag. Challenge students to take turns taking one item out at time. Then, ask students to write the main idea of their bag on a piece of paper.
4. To challenge students ask them to name one item that would not belong in the bag and another item that could be belong in the bag.
5. Next, have each group take turns telling you what they think the main idea of the mystery bag is as well as answer the challenge questions.

Activity 4: Independent work

Have students work independently on the carnival main idea worksheet. Monitor students as they work and answer any questions they may have on the main idea and three supporting details.

Evaluation

Assess students understanding by looking at their worksheets and group work activity.