Comprehension

Teacher Use:

Comprehension refers to the process of simultaneously extracting and constructing meaning. In other words, there are two challenges: Figuring out how print represents words (accurately and efficiently--extracting), at the same time formulating a representation of the information being presented (building new meaning and integrating new and old information--constructing meaning). (Snow & Sweet, 2003, p. 1.)

Main Idea Graphic Organizer is a road map for students to chart before, during and after reading and to use as a guide for writing or studying afterwards. Main Idea Graphic organizers are best used with text that is sequential or descriptive The organizers provide framework for students to record the main idea and details that can be found within each paragraph as they read the text.

Main Idea Graphic Organizers are included in this resource.

This resource strategy can be used in whole group instruction, literacy stations, small group instruction, or for reading intervention.

Comprehension

Directions:

Choose appropriate leveled text that covers the content being taught. Make sure the text is summative or descriptive in order to use the Main Idea/Detailed Graphic Organizer. Give students a Main Idea/Detailed Graphic Organizer to fill out. Make a copy to display. Have students review the paragraphs that need to be read and number them on their graphic organizer. Model reading one paragraph at a time and recording important details. After recording details for each paragraph, think aloud with students to determine the main idea of the paragraph. Students will fill out the graphic organizer as the teacher models it.

Name _____ Date _____

MAIN IDEA

Choose a story and answer the wh- questions below. Then, use the details you gathered to write the main idea of the story.

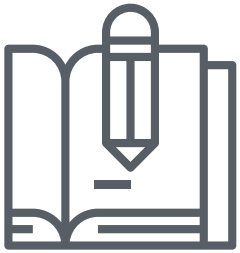
Who is in the story?	When did the story take place?
What happened in the story?	Where did the story take place?

What is the main idea of this story? _____

_____

_____

Main Idea Organiser



Topic:



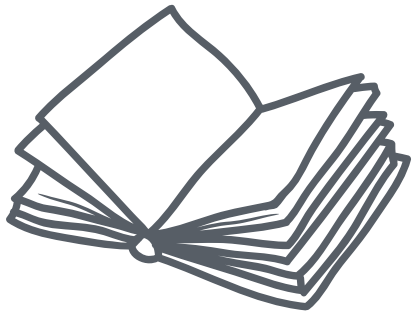
Main Idea 1	Main Idea 2	Main Idea 3	Main Idea 4
Supporting Information	Supporting Information	Supporting Information	Supporting Information

STORY MIND MAP

Name: _____

Date: _____

Title & Author



When did the story happen?

Who is in the story?



What happened?

Where is the story set?

Why did it happen?