

# Main Idea Planning Mat

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Text/Topic: \_\_\_\_\_



## What is the Main Idea?

The main idea is what the text is mostly about. It tells the big message.

## Clues That Help Find the Main Idea

- Title and headings
- First and last sentences
- Repeated words or ideas
- Details that support the same idea



## MAIN IDEA

Write the main idea in your own words.

## SUPPORTING DETAILS

1 Detail #1



How does this detail support the main idea?

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2 Detail #2



How does this detail support the main idea?

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3 Detail #3



How does this detail support the main idea?

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## PUT IT TOGETHER

Write 1–2 sentences that explain the main idea using the supporting details.

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## CHECK YOUR THINKING

Does your main idea summarise the whole text?

- Yes, it does.
- Almost – I need to refine it.
- No – I need a new main idea.