

# Generalize

HW 1/12

- A **generalization** is a type of conclusion in which a broad statement is made based on several examples.
- Clue words such as *all*, *most*, *always*, *usually*, or *generally* signal generalizations.
- A generalization can be valid (logical) or faulty (wrong) depending on the number of examples on which it is based and how logical the thinking is.

**Directions** Read the following passage. Then complete the diagram below by finding a generalization and its support.

**F**or the animals in the rain forest, it was a typical day. The squirrel monkeys were swinging above the trees, gathering juicy fruit for their babies to eat. The snakes were slithering into the river to cool off from the hot sun. The birds were

gathering twigs and leaves from the forest floor to build their nests way above in the mighty branches. Not a single animal lacked something to do, except maybe the sloth. The sloth just hung lazily from a shady tree.

## Generalization

5.

**Support from Text**

1.

**Support from Text**

2.

**Support from Text**

3.

**Support from Text**

4.



**Home Activity** Your child used a graphic organizer to find a generalization and support for it. Together, read a short passage from a fiction or nonfiction text. Have your child make two generalizations about the events in the story—one valid and one faulty. Have him or her explain the difference between the two.

# Author's Purpose

**Directions** Read the following passage. Then answer the questions below.

Rain forests are an important part of all our lives, and they need help from all of us. Rain forests should be protected for many reasons. For instance, rain forests provide people with many foods and medicines. Of course, rain forests are important to the lives of many animals and plants. In fact, rain forests are home to about fifty percent of our plant and animal population! Isn't that amazing?

Unfortunately, rain forests are in danger every day. Many rain forests are being cut down to make room for crops and cattle. Yet you can do something to protect our rain forests from further damage. Begin by writing a letter to one of the people who represents your state in the U.S. Congress. In your letter, tell him or her about your belief in the importance of saving rain forests from future harm.

1. What is the topic of this passage?

---

2. What is the author's main purpose?

---

3. What might be a secondary purpose of the author?

---

4. Do you think the author meets his or her main purpose? Why or why not?

---

5. On a separate sheet of paper, choose a topic you feel is important. Decide on a purpose, and then write a paragraph about this topic.

Use the paper that is attached.

Remember:  
A paragraph has a topic sentence and detail sentences.



**Home Activity** Your child identified the author's purpose in an article. Together, find another article about an interesting aspect of nature. After reading the article, discuss the author's purpose.