

## Main Idea and Details

- The **main idea** is the most important idea from a paragraph, passage, or article.
- **Details** are small pieces of information that tell more about the main idea.

**Directions** Read the passage. Then complete the diagram below.

**Y**osemite National Park has many rules for people to follow in order to preserve the park. One rule is that hunting of any animals is not allowed. Hunting would change the food supply for animals in the park. Hunting in a busy park could also be dangerous to humans. Riding a bike off an official trail is against the rules too. This could ruin the plant life growing in natural areas. Another rule prohibits

people from feeding animals. It is not safe for the animals or the visitors. Wild animals might get used to being fed and be unable to feed themselves in the wild. Finally, people cannot remove plants or rocks as souvenirs. If visitors follow these and other rules of the park, Yosemite will continue to be a beautiful, natural place to visit.

Main Idea
1. Yosemite has

↓

Supporting Ideas
2. Hunting
3.
4. Feeding animals
5.



**Home Activity** Your child read a short passage and identified its main idea and supporting details. Have your child write a paragraph about his or her favorite place. Then help your child create a graphic organizer that identifies the main idea and supporting details of the paragraph.

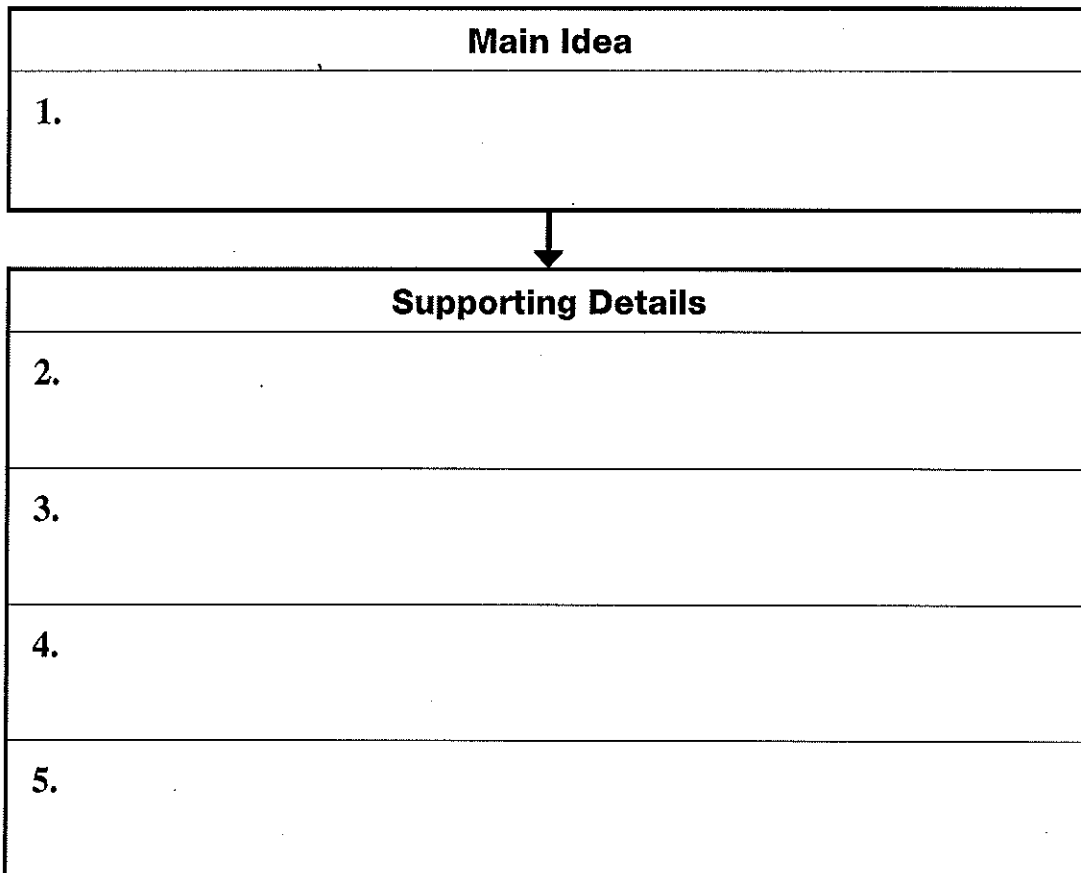
Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Main Idea and Details

- The **main idea** is the most important idea from a paragraph, passage, or article.
- **Details** are small pieces of information that tell more about the main idea.

**Directions** Read the following passage. Then complete the diagram below.

<p><b>S</b>everal people helped make Yellowstone National Park a protected place. In the 1600s and 1700s, fur trappers came through the area. They noticed its amazing features, such as geysers that shoot hot water high into the air. When they returned to towns and camps, they told stories about what they had seen.</p>	<p>Soon expeditions were organized to explore Yellowstone. The expedition led by Ferdinand Hayden in 1871 included a photographer and an artist who captured the beauty of Yellowstone in their pictures. They showed their pictures to Congress. In 1872, President Grant signed a law that made sure Yellowstone would be protected forever by making it the first national park.</p>
---	---



© Pearson Education 4



**Home Activity** Your child read a short passage and identified the main idea and supporting details. Work with your child to create a graphic organizer that identifies the main idea and supporting details of an article about a natural area.

## Main Idea and Details

- The **main idea** is the most important idea from a paragraph, passage, or article.
- **Details** are small pieces of information that tell more about the main idea.

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

I can't believe our summer camping trip is over. We did so many fun things in so little time. First we found a perfect camping spot on the edge of a grassy meadow. The ground was nice and soft there—perfect for sleeping on. Then we headed to the river, where we went rafting.

The ride was bumpy and fast. When we finished rafting, we took a long hike back up the river. Along the hike we stopped to pick wild berries. They were sweet. Finally we got back to our camp and built a fire. We sang songs around the fire until it was time for bed.

1. In one or two words, what is this passage about?

---

2. What is the main idea of the passage?

---



---

3. What is one important detail that tells more about the main idea?

---



---

4. What is another detail that tells more about the main idea?

---



---

5. On a separate piece of paper, make a graphic organizer that shows the main idea and the details that support the main idea.

Extra Credit 

You may use the back of this page.



**Home Activity** Your child identified the main idea and supporting details of a nonfiction passage. Read a magazine article about a different wild animal with your child. Work together to identify the main idea and supporting details of the article. Then write a short summary.