



NEW YORK STATE MIGRANT EDUCATION PROGRAM

Title: Reading Comprehension of Informational Text: Main Idea

Description: This strategy helps students learn to determine the main idea, with specific strategies for teaching English Learners how to determine main idea. After a demonstration, participants have time to use a graphic organizer to determine main ideas and then use these ideas to write summaries.

Developer: Kathleen M. Lord, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Literacy Education, Department of Teaching and Learning, SUNY New Paltz.

Series: The Reading Comprehension series includes nine modules with targeted strategies to teach students how to manage their reading. The modules can be used in any order.

Facilitator Guide

INDIVIDUAL ACCESS/SELF-SERVE (*for Individuals viewing this module independently*): While a robust conversation between colleagues is an enriching way to learn, so is self-reflection. Read and use this Guide as the Facilitator of your own learning. To get the most out of the activities and questions, make sure you have the recommended handouts and supplies listed below, before beginning.

CTLE CREDIT

Group Workshop: If you are facilitating this workshop for your METS, you will have to decide which process you will use for granting CTLE credit. You can use your local LEA process, or the M-TASC process:

- a. Contact M-TASC in advance of the workshop to confirm date and module.
- b. Use the M-TASC Participant Sign-In Sheet, and submit.
- c. Submit Workshop Evaluations via link or hard copy. If you use the Evaluation link, M-TASC will forward the compiled evaluations once you have informed the office that all evaluations are complete.

Individual Access/Self-Serve: For those who would like to request Continuing Teacher Leader Education (CTLE) credit for On-Demand professional development, please complete the CTLE Credit Request for each module. Find the link for this process on the NYS-MEP website:

<https://www.nysmigrant.org/resources/pd>

OBJECTIVES/LEARNING TARGET(S)

- Review text types.
- Learn why main idea is important.
- Explore instructional strategies.
- Reinforce strategies to support English Learners.

WORKSHOP/MODULE DESIGN

This workshop is designed for teachers and can be completed as a stand-alone or with any of the other Comprehension modules.

CONNECTION TO THE NYS MEP

THEORY OF ACTION

Subject Content and Instruction

- This activity is instructional and supports student's comprehension.

SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS

- Video: *Reading Comprehension of Informational Text: Main Idea*
 - Use the video link on the NYS migrant website in the Professional Development section for this workshop, "*Reading Comprehension of Informational Text: Main Idea.*"

- Participant Handouts
 1. Power Point Notes
 2. Strategy 1 Instructions for Main Idea
 3. Main Idea Mania Graphic Organizer
 4. Strategy 2 Instructions for Writing a Summary
 5. Summary Graphic Organizer
- Reading A-Z Readers (or substitute with other non-fiction/expository/informational text)
 - Grade 1: Elephants: Giant Mammals
 - Grade 2: Coral Reefs
 - Grade 3 – Soccer
 - Grade 5 – The Plague!
 - Grade 5 – What is Water Worth?
- Workshop Sign-in
- Workshop Evaluation

Facilitator Note: The graphic organizer handouts are student resources that are used with permission from the Florida Center for Research: home page <http://www.fcrr.org>

GETTING STARTED

(Video: 7 minutes. Stopping for the Practice Activities: 15-20 minutes more.)

- Disseminate handouts and supplies.
- Start the Video Presentation: *Reading Comprehension of Informational Text: Main Idea*

Key Points for Independent Learning

- Supports comprehension.
- Students use the details to determine main idea (categories).
- Students integrate ideas about a general topic.
- Then students use main ideas to write summaries.

Facilitator Note: The presenter, Kathleen, will demonstrate both strategies. After each demonstration, there will be time for participants to practice the strategy demonstrated. You will hear a bell tone when Kathleen starts giving directions for a practice activity. The graphic on the video will say, “STOP HERE AND PRACTICE.” A brief musical riff will play when the directions are complete and it is time to stop the video for participants to practice the activity.

PRACTICE ACTIVITY: Strategy 1 – Determining Main Idea

Key Points

- It is easy to confuse the “topic” with the “main idea”
- Determining the topic in the first step helps students separate the two concepts
- Use the details to determine the main idea

Handouts: Strategy 1 Instructions for Main Idea
Main Idea Mania graphic organizer

Reading A-Z Readers (or substitute with other non-fiction/expository/informational text)

Grade 1: Elephants: Giant Mammals
Grade 2: Coral Reefs
Grade 3 – Soccer
Grade 5 – The Plague!
Grade 5 – What is Water Worth?

Facilitator Note: Participants can work as a group to finish the details and main ideas for *What is Water Worth?* Or participants can work in pairs with a different story to start.

Practice, process and return to the video.

Facilitator Note: For groups, process the activity as a large group before returning to the video. Possible questions for processing: How did it go? What student could you use this with?

PRACTICE ACTIVITY: Strategy 2 – Writing a Summary

Handouts: Strategy 2 Instructions for Writing a Summary
Super Summary graphic organizers

Facilitator Note: To save time, participants can use the Main Ideas identified during the first activity to start the Summary graphic organizer in the second activity.

Closure for Group Workshops

- Facilitators are welcome to use the Workshop Evaluation provided on the website or you can use your own version.
- *Continuing Teacher Leader Education (CTLE)* – Follow the CTLE process at your METS program center for staff who are tracking credit.

Closure for Individual Access/Self-Serve

- Complete the Workshop Evaluation and give it to your Director.
- *Continuing Teacher Leader Education (CTLE)* – If you would like to request credit for this module, please follow the CTLE Credit Request process. Find the link for this process on the NYS-MEP website: <https://www.nysmigrant.org/resources/pd>