

MAIN IDEA

PASSAGES, TASK CARDS, GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS, & ACTIVITIES

MAIN IDEA MATCHING: GUM

Name: _____

Directions: Supporting details explain more about the main idea. Without reading a passage, match each supporting detail to its main idea by writing the letter of the main idea on the line.

MAIN IDEAS

- A. The history of gum is very interesting.
- B. Gum is made using a specific process.
- C. Gum has health benefits.
- D. Some people are gum record holders.

MAIN IDEA	SUPPORTING DETAIL

Meerkats

Name: _____



In Africa.
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bysitters,
the highest rock or
predators st-
pred-

main idea and KEY DETAILS

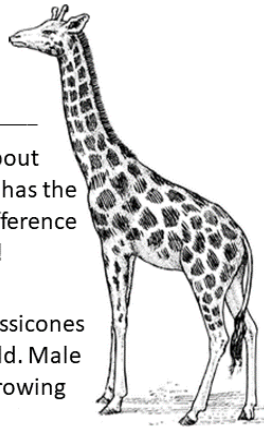
GIRAFFES

Name: _____

A giraffe is the tallest land animal and stands about 17 feet tall. Although its neck is very long, it actually has the same number of bones as we do, seven. The only difference is that a giraffe's neckbone might be ten inches long!

All giraffes have two skin-covered horns, called ossicones, on the tops of their heads. The female's ossicones have a small bit of fur on top. Male ossicones are bald. Male giraffes use their horns when they are fighting by throwing their necks against each other.

Giraffes live in Africa's savanna areas. Their coat helps them blend in with their surroundings. Their height allows them to reach high branches to eat the leaves that other animals can't reach. Their favorite leaves are from the acacia tree. Most of their day is spent eating. A full-grown giraffe



IDEA?

MAIN IDEA

Some say dominoes were invented in China around 1120. Others believe the Egyptians created dominoes. In the 1700s, dominoes became very popular in Italy. Soon the game spread to France and England. European dominoes have 32 tiles. Early wood, or ivory plastic. Dom especially wi

SUPPORTING DETAIL

Some birds have one toe that points backward to help the

EA SORT

MAIN IDEA:
Animals have different types of feet.

GREEN

BLUE

MAIN IDEA

2

Hippos and rhinos are both large animals, but they are very different. Hippos spend most of their time in rivers and lakes. Rhinos like woodland areas with plenty of grass and water. Hippos like to live in herds with up to 40 animals. White rhinos live in small groups of 15, but Black and Indian rhinos live alone. While hippos and rhinos are herbivores (eat plants), hippos sometimes eat meat. Rhinos have one or two horns, while hippos do not have horns.



4TH - 5TH GRADES
THE TEACHER NEXT DOOR

9 MAIN IDEA PASSAGES TO SCAFFOLD LEARNING

3 Color-Coding

3 Open-Ended

3 Multiple Choice

THE HISTORY OF FOOTBALL

Name: _____

Football, as well as rugby and soccer, are sports that have come from an ancient Greek game called Harpaston was a very rough game with very few rules. The main goal of the game was to cross a ball with it, or throwing it to another player. They tried to get them in any way possible! This game had no boundaries, and no rules about how many players.

No one knows exactly when football was invented. Princeton and Harvard (joined by Dartmouth) played the first football. They each played different versions of the game.

They had huge crowds of fans, and it was very violent, and dangerous. In 1860, the first football was played. Football was invented in 1869.

atives from New York City. They played the first football in 1869.

coach at Yale. Even. Can't play. Camp's goal was to make football more of a game.

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ARCHAEOLOGY

Name: _____

Archaeology is the science of learning about the past. These scientists, called archaeologists, study the remains of things people have left behind. This helps them learn about people who lived long ago. They learn how people lived, what they looked like, and what tools they used. Archaeologists study everything from shipwrecks to lost cities that were hidden under the sand.

You will often find archaeologists on a "dig," because things from the past usually get buried under layers of dirt. They can be buried by people or by natural disasters like floods, volcanoes, or hurricanes. Once a natural disaster happens, people sometimes rebuild homes and cities. Sometimes things that were destroyed. Archaeologists find things that were buried under the sand.



Salamanders



Salamanders face many predators like birds, snakes, frogs, fish, raccoons, and even other salamanders. Luckily, salamanders have a variety of ways to avoid being eaten. Besides trying to run away, many salamanders roll into a tight ball or even hiss at their predators. Others play dead, hoping their predators will leave them alone. Many brightly colored salamanders have skin that is poisonous. Salamanders that are brightly colored but don't have poison trick predators into avoiding them. A few salamanders, like the fire salamander, may look cute but can be dangerous. They can squirt poison from the glands right behind their eyes. As a last

Post-it Notes

Name: _____

Everyone knows about Post-it Notes, but do you know how they were invented? Post-it Notes has an interesting history! In 1968, a scientist names Spencer Silver was working at 3M. He tried to make a glue that was so strong it could be used to build airplanes. The glue he created, though, wasn't strong enough at all and was called a failure. It was a glue that could be easily peeled away. Later on, Art Fry, another scientist who worked at 3M, was singing in his church choir. He kept losing the notes that he wrote in his church songbook. Fry wished he had a note that could stick to his songbook and later be removed without leaving any stickiness. Fry took that idea to Silver. Silver liked the idea, but 3M didn't for almost ten years. Finally, in 1977, 3M agreed that Post-It Notes were a good idea and put them into stores. At first, no one understood them, and so they didn't buy them. In 1978, after sending free samples to many companies, they became very popular.

Directions: Underline the main idea and three supporting details in the passage using the colors shown below.

MAIN IDEA:

RED

SUPPORTING DETAILS 1:

PURPLE

SUPPORTING DETAILS 2:

GREEN

SUPPORTING DETAILS 3:

BLUE

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PERFECT FOR:

- Whole class lessons
- Small groups/partners
- Independent work

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32 TASK CARDS FOR FOCUSED PRACTICE

1 MAIN IDEA

Some say dominoes were invented in China around 1120. Others believe the Egyptians first created dominoes. In the 1700s, dominoes became very popular in Italy. Soon the game spread to France and England. European dominoes have 28 tiles. Chinese dominoes have 32 tiles. Early dominoes were made from bone, wood, or ivory. Now most dominoes are made of plastic. Dominoes continue to be popular, especially with Latin Americans.

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2 MAIN IDEA

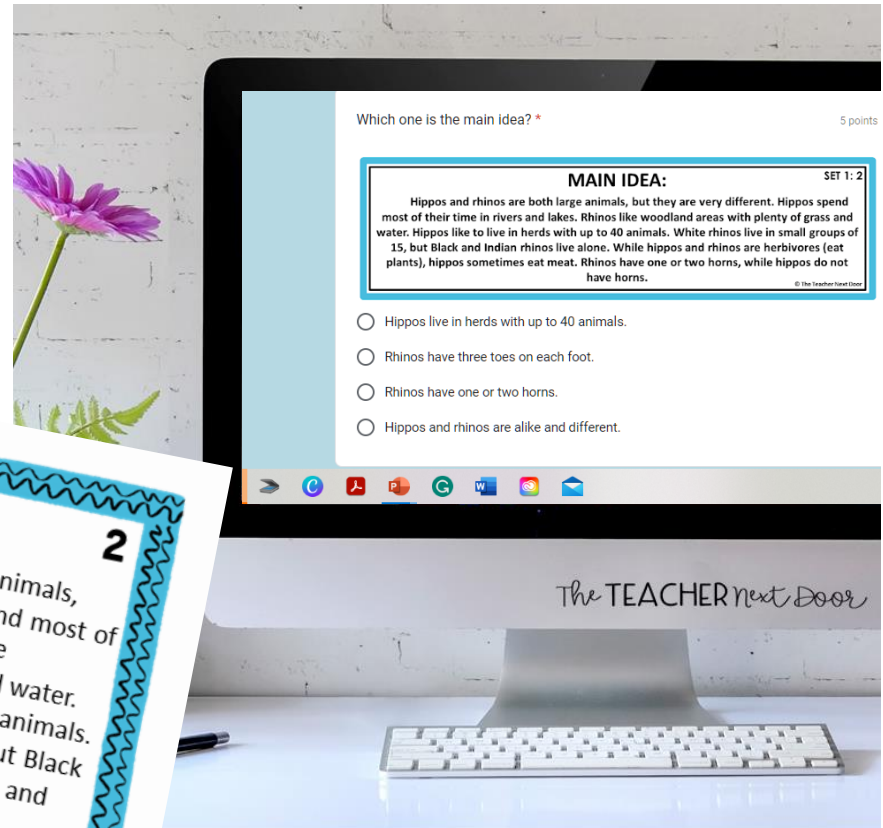
Hippos and rhinos are both large animals, but they are very different. Hippos spend most of their time in rivers and lakes. Rhinos like woodland areas with plenty of grass and water. Hippos like to live in herds with up to 40 animals. White rhinos live in small groups of 15, but Black and Indian rhinos live alone. While hippos and rhinos are herbivores (eat plants), hippos sometimes eat meat. Rhinos have one or two horns, while hippos do not have horns.

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3 MAIN IDEA

Smoothies made with lots of fruits and vegetables can be a healthy treat. Fruits and vegetables in a smoothie help boost brain power and memory. Smoothies made with fresh ingredients can reduce stress. They can also help you stay happier and have fewer mood swings. Green smoothies are full of leafy vegetables, which makes them an easy way to get vitamins and minerals. Finally, similar to water, drinking a smoothie can keep you hydrated.

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WORKS WELL FOR:

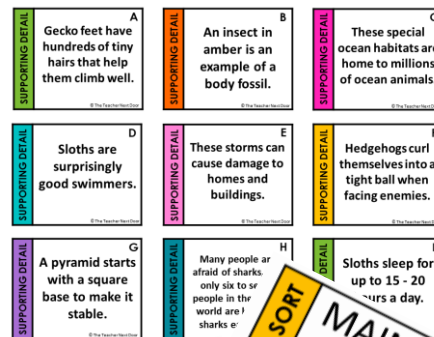
- Small groups/partners
- Whole Class Games
- Scoot/Scavenger Hunts

GAMES AND ACTIVITIES TO MAKE LEARNING FUN

"What's in the Bag?" Activity



Sorting Game



Ideal for:

- Whole group practice
- Small groups/partners
- Centers

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR EXTRA PRACTICE

3 Matching Pages:

Match supporting details
main ideas

4 Anchor Charts

7 Graphic Organizers

To use with any nonfiction text



THE MAIN IDEA and **KEY DETAILS**

THE MAIN IDEA IS A SENTENCE THAT TELLS WHAT THE TEXT IS MOSTLY ABOUT.

KEY DETAILS GIVE THE READER INFORMATION ABOUT THE MAIN IDEA.

KEY DETAILS SUPPORT THE MAIN IDEA:

- Reasons
- Descriptions
- Facts
- Explanations
- Examples
- Smaller ideas

EXAMPLE:
MAIN IDEA:
Some animals use camouflage to help them survive.

KEY DETAILS: (Each detail talks about animals camouflaging)

- A leopard can hide easily in the tall, brown grass.
- The leafy seadragon blends in with kelp in the ocean.
- The white fur of a mountain hare helps it hide in the snow.

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main idea and KEY DETAILS

Name: _____

WHAT IS THE MAIN IDEA?

KEY DETAIL: KEY DETAIL: KEY DETAIL:

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MAIN IDEA and KEY DETAILS

Name: _____

MAIN IDEA

KEY DETAIL

KEY DETAIL

KEY DETAIL

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MORE RESOURCES TO GIVE YOU OPTIONS

Matching Pages:

Kids read each
supporting detail
and determine its
main idea

Graphic Organizers

to use with ANY
nonfiction text

Use these activities for:

- Whole group practice
- Small groups/partners
- Spiral Review

MAIN IDEA MATCHING: GUM

Name: _____

Directions: Supporting details explain more about the main idea. Without reading a passage, match each supporting detail to its main idea by writing the letter of the main idea on the line.

MAIN IDEAS	
A.	The history of gum is very interesting.
B.	Gum is made using a specific process.
C.	Gum has health benefits.
D.	Some people are gum record holders.

MAIN IDEA	SUPPORTING DETAILS
1. _____	Brian Travers chewed a piece of Trident Layers Gum and D seconds.
2. _____	The ancient Greeks chewed on tree sap, as did Mayans and
3. _____	Chewing gum boosts brain activity and increases your men
4. _____	Bubble gum has five main ingredients: chewing gum base, flavorings, and colors.
5. _____	When brushing your teeth isn't possible, chewing sugar-free after meals and snacks has been proven to help protect yo
6. _____	In 1884, Black Jack, a licorice gum, was the first gum to be United States.
7. _____	Research has shown that students who chew gum during e and focused.
8. _____	In 1928, Walter Diemer, an accountant for Fleer Chewing G invented bubblegum while trying to create a regular batch
9. _____	A gum base is added to the recipe to put the "chew" in reg the "bubble" in bubble gum.
10. _____	Trevor Cummings stretched a piece of gum 564 inches long
11. _____	William Wrigley Jr.'s company sold soap until he introduced Spearmint Gum in 1893.
12. _____	When the blending is completed, the gum passes between a flowing ribbon.
13. _____	Jordan Brown wrapped one piece of gum around his finger seconds.

MAIN IDEA MATCHING: BEARDED DRAGONS

Name: _____

Directions: Supporting details explain more about the main idea. Without reading a passage, match each supporting detail to its main idea by writing the letter of the main idea on the line.

MAIN IDEAS	
A.	Bearded dragons have unique physical characteristics.
B.	A bearded dragon's behavior is different from other animals.
C.	Bearded dragons have a special diet.
D.	There are certain signs a bearded dragon shows when it is unhealthy.

MAIN IDEA	SUPPORTING DETAILS
1. _____	A bearded dragon's diet includes vegetables, insects, and non-citrus fruit.
2. _____	Bearded dragons are tan to yellow in color.
3. _____	Head bobbing (repeatedly raising and lowering the head) is more common in males.
4. _____	A typical young bearded dragon eats about 20 to 60 crickets (or other insects) each day.
5. _____	It isn't easy to know which bearded dragons are males and which are females when they are young.
6. _____	It is called "bearded" because it flares the skin around the throat when it feels threatened or is guarding its territory.
7. _____	If a bearded dragon gets too much vitamin A, it lacks energy, and its eyes, throat, and body get swollen.
8. _____	Bearded dragons may hiss if they feel threatened.
9. _____	There are spines on the throat, sides of the head, and sides of the body.
10. _____	Sunken eyes, wrinkled skin, and lack of energy are signs of dehydration.
11. _____	Males and females expand their beards, usually to make themselves look bigger.
12. _____	When a bearded dragon doesn't get enough Vitamin B1 in his/her diet, he/she will have muscle twitches.
13. _____	When you give your bearded dragon insects, you need to make sure they aren't too big for your dragon to eat.

MAIN IDEA MATCHING: George Washington Carver

Name: _____

Directions: Supporting details explain more about the main idea. Without reading a passage, match each supporting detail to its main idea by writing the letter of the main idea on the line.

MAIN IDEAS	
A.	George Washington Carver had an interesting childhood.
B.	George Washington Carver worked as a professor.
C.	George Washington Carver believed in an idea.
D.	George Washington Carver's favorite crops.

MAIN IDEA	SUPPORTING DETAILS
1. _____	George Washington Carver had an interesting childhood.
2. _____	George Washington Carver worked as a professor.
3. _____	George Washington Carver believed in an idea.
4. _____	George Washington Carver's favorite crops.

main idea and KEY DETAILS

Name: _____

WHAT IS THE MAIN IDEA?

KEY DETAIL:	KEY DETAIL:

MAIN IDEA and SUPPORTING DETAILS

Name: _____

Supporting Detail 1	Supporting Detail 2	Supporting Detail 3

↓

MAIN IDEA

MAIN IDEA AND SUPPORTING DETAILS

Name: _____

Supporting Detail 2

MAIN IDEA:

Supporting Detail 4

TEACHERS ARE SAYING THIS:

This is a loaded resource!! Easy to differentiate and comes with everything you need and more.
(Josie A.)

My students really loved reading about each topic. I love the support this has given for main idea versus supporting details.
(Sarah J.)

This resource has been so helpful getting my students to practice finding the main idea in whole group, small groups, and independently.
(Andrea P.)

Main Idea is always such a challenging concept for my third graders. The many examples and opportunities to identify main idea were helpful in achieving mastery of this concept. (Jody K.)

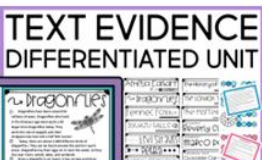
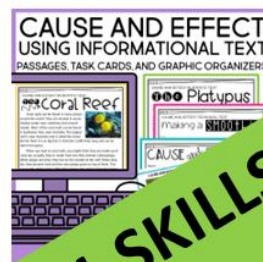
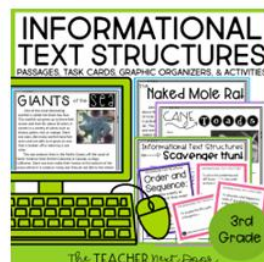
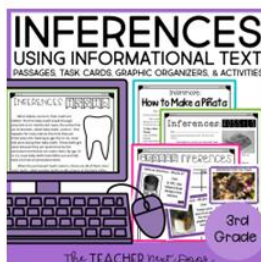
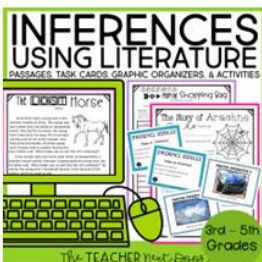
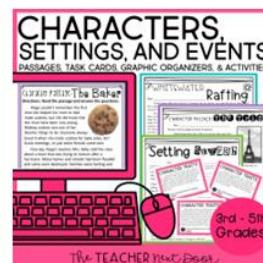
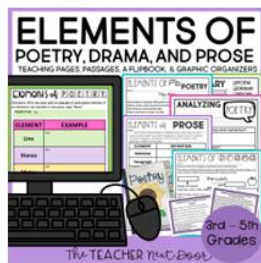


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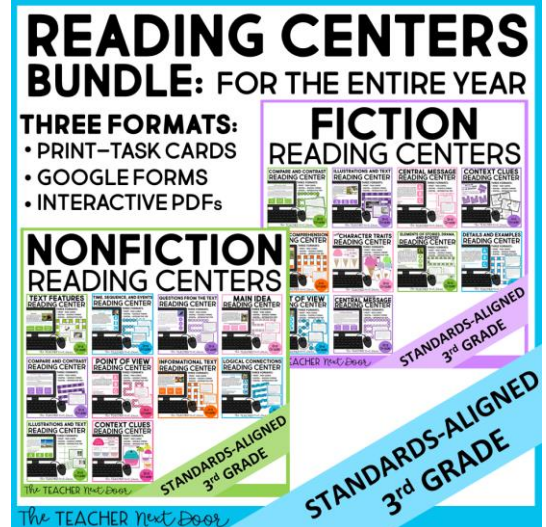
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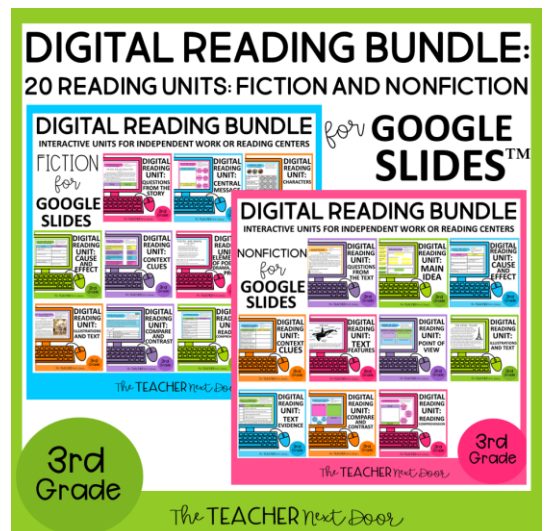


The TEACHER next Door

10 ESSENTIAL SKILLS
3rd GRADE



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CLICK [HERE](#) to take a look!

The TEACHER next Door

At [The Teacher Next Door](#), we know that you strive to be an effective reading teacher while maintaining a healthy work-life balance. In order to do that, you need resources that are impactful, yet simple. The problem is that most reading resources and curriculums out there are far from simple. The pages upon pages of daily lesson plans are just plain overwhelming. We believe teachers should be living their lives outside the classroom, and not spending hours lesson planning and searching for resources.

Now, more than ever, teachers need space to be themselves, which is why we create and support teachers with timesaving tips and standards-aligned resources.

We can't wait to help you get started.

A NOTE ABOUT OUR CEO AND FOUNDER: Jenn Larson is the creator and founder of The Teacher Next Door. With over 20 years of experience in the classroom and a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction, Jenn specializes in creating resources for upper elementary students. Her goal is to support teachers by providing ready-to-use resources that target standards and help students grow in amazing ways.

REACH OUT AT: contact@the-teacher-next-door.com



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