Main Idea and Details

- The main idea is the most important idea about the topic.
- Details are small pieces of information that tell more about the main idea.

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

Who earned the title *Mother of the Blues*? That would be Ma Rainey (1886–1939), the first great African American blues singer. Her career began when she was fourteen years old in a local talent show in Georgia. Just four years later, she married “Pa” Rainey, and they formed a song-and-dance act that included blues songs. They traveled and performed throughout the South.

In 1923, she made her first recording. She recorded about 100 songs. She performed with many notable jazz musicians during her career, which lasted until the 1930s. Her singing influenced many younger blues singers.

Home Activity Your child read a short passage and used a graphic organizer to identify the main idea and details. Work with your child to identify the main idea and details of individual paragraphs in a magazine article about music.
Writing • Description

Key Features of a Description
- creates a vivid mental picture
- imagery may appeal to the five senses
- uses precise words and vivid adjectives

Swing Music

Swing grew out of jazz music, and in the 1930s and 1940s it was as popular as could be. A top-flight swing band might have twenty or twenty-five musicians in it, playing trumpets, trombones, clarinets, saxophones, a piano, and drums. Just imagine the sound!

The name swing says it all. Swing music swings. It has a fast tempo and a syncopated rhythm. When you hear swing music, you just can’t sit still—you have to get up and dance. In the 1940s swing dancers were called “jitterbugs” because they jumped and hopped and twisted all over the dance floor. A male swing dancer often picks up his partner and swings her over his head or across his shoulders.

Swing music is still around. Its popularity faded during World War II because most musicians were men, and most men joined the military. The types of popular music that came later, such as bebop and rock and roll, were made by smaller bands—often just three or four musicians.

But swing music never died. One of the greatest swing bandleaders, Glenn Miller, died in 1944, but the Glenn Miller Orchestra still performs across America and Europe. Modern dance competitions always feature swing. The 1990s saw a huge revival in swing music, with brand new swing bands forming and recording.

1. Read the description. What is this passage describing?

2. Underline two sentences that contain vivid details.
Name__________________________________________

**Vocabulary**

**Directions** Choose the word from the box that best matches each definition below.

1. to think highly of ____________________________

2. the condition of being owned by another person and being made to work without wages ____________________________

3. devoted to religion ____________________________

4. a group of singers who sing together often in a church service ____________________________

5. a person in his or her teens ____________________________

**Directions** Match each word on the left with the word that has a similar meaning on the right. Write the correct letter on the line.

6. released ____________________________ a. spiritual

7. barber ____________________________ b. singers

8. appreciate ____________________________ c. haircutter

9. choir ____________________________ d. published

10. religious ____________________________ e. value

**Write a Journal Entry**

On a separate sheet of paper, write a journal entry describing your favorite kind of music and why you like it. Use as many vocabulary words as you can.

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**Check the Words You Know**

- appreciate
- barber
- choir
- released
- religious
- slavery
- teenager
Troublesome Verbs

Some pairs of verbs are confusing because they have similar meanings or because they look alike.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verb</th>
<th>Present</th>
<th>Past</th>
<th>Past Participle</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lay means “put” or “place.”</td>
<td>lay</td>
<td>laid</td>
<td>(has, have, had) laid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lie means “rest” or “recline.”</td>
<td>lie</td>
<td>lay</td>
<td>(has, have, had) lain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Set means “put something somewhere.”</td>
<td>set</td>
<td>set</td>
<td>(has, have, had) set</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sit means “sit down.”</td>
<td>sit</td>
<td>sat</td>
<td>(has, have, had) sat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Let means “allow.”</td>
<td>let</td>
<td>let</td>
<td>(has, have, had) let</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leave means “go away.”</td>
<td>leave</td>
<td>left</td>
<td>(has, have, had) left</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Directions** Write the form of the underlined verb indicated in ( ).

1. A teenage girl sit with the choir. (past) ____________
2. She has lay her hand over her heart. (past participle) ____________
3. The choir director let her join. (past) ____________
4. The music never leave her head. (past) ____________
5. When she set her suitcases down in Chicago, Mahalia knew she was home. (past) ____________
6. Mahalia’s father had let her follow her dream. (past participle) ____________

**Directions** Use context to help you decide which verb is needed. Then find the principal part needed on the chart. Underline the verb that correctly completes the sentence.

7. I (set, sit) a CD on the counter.
8. Will you (leave, let) me pay for it?
9. My parents have already (left, let) the store.
10. After dinner we (sat, set) down and listened to the CD.
11. Tom has (laid, lain) down on the floor.
12. Fiona (laid, lied) a log on the fire.

**Home Activity** Your child learned about troublesome verbs. Ask your child to explain the difference in meaning between sit/set, lie/lay, and leave/let and then act out the meanings of the verbs in each pair to demonstrate the difference.
Name_____________________________________________________

One Consonant or Two

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spelling Words</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>collect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>announce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>barricade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>collar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi</td>
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<tr>
<td>possess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>broccoli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mirror</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>immediate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>accomplish</td>
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<tr>
<td>recess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>command</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gallop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>appreciate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>opponent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>accomplish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>allowance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Words in Context Write the list word that best completes the sentence.

1. The vegetable ____ looks like little trees.
   1. __________________

2. It was hard to cross the street because of the police ____.
   2. __________________

3. The capital of ____ is Nashville.
   3. __________________

4. Don’t forget to button your ____.
   4. __________________

5. “Faster, faster,” he urged the horse as it began to ____.
   5. __________________

6. He looked in the ____ to comb his hair.
   6. __________________

7. The ____ River is the second-longest river in the United States.
   7. __________________

8. Our class has ____ after lunch.
   8. __________________

9. Do you get a weekly ____ for doing chores?
   9. __________________

10. I need your telephone number and ____ for our records.
    10. _________________

Antonyms Write the list word that has the opposite or nearly the opposite meaning.

11. scatter
    11. __________________

12. delayed
    12. __________________

13. obey
    13. __________________

14. disregard
    14. __________________

15. remove
    15. __________________

Synonyms Write the list word that has the same or almost the same meaning.

16. declare
    16. __________________

17. group
    17. __________________

18. foe
    18. __________________

19. summer squash
    19. __________________

20. succeed
    20. __________________

Home Activity Your child wrote words with double consonants. Take turns saying and spelling the list words aloud.
Vocabulary • Antonyms

- An **antonym** is a word that means the opposite of another word.
- Words such as **unlike, but, and instead** may indicate the presence of antonyms.
- A **thesaurus** is a book that lists words and their antonyms and synonyms.

**Directions**  Read the following passage. Then answer the questions below. You may use a thersaurus.

The songs called spirituals were inspired by the lives of the people who wrote them: slaves living in the southern United States. By singing spirituals, slaves expressed their hope of being released and not enslaved, either in this life or the next. After slavery ended, spirituals were neglected because they reminded people of something they wanted to forget. But time passed, and spirituals came to be appreciated for their message and music. Spirituals are closely related to the gospel music, blues, and jazz that we hear today.

1. Find the antonym in the passage for **released**. How does this antonym help to define **released**?

2. Find the antonym for **appreciated**. How does this antonym help to define **appreciated**?

3. In this passage, the word **spiritual** means “a religious song.” **Spiritual** also means “interested in the belief and worship of God or gods.” What is an antonym for the second meaning?

4. In this passage, the word **slavery** means “the condition of being owned by another person and being made to work without wages.” What is an antonym for **slavery**?

5. Write down a word from the passage and its antonym. Write a sentence or sentences using the original word and its antonym.

**Home Activity** Your child read a short passage and identified words and their antonyms. Read an article with your child and identify unfamiliar words. Try to find their meanings by identifying their antonyms in the article.
Card Catalog/Library Database

• You can use a card catalog or library database to find books, magazines, audiotapes, videotapes, CD-ROMS, and other materials in the library. You can search for materials by author, title, or subject. A card catalog is a box of drawers filled with cards containing detailed information about books and other library materials. A library database is an electronic version of a card catalog.

• If you don’t know exactly what you are searching for in the library database, you can use “keywords.” Be sure to type and spell words carefully. If you use more than one keyword in your search, put the word “AND” between the keywords.

• Both card catalog and library databases contain certain types of basic information. For instance, call numbers are used by libraries to identify and organize the items in their collections. Nonfiction books, videos, and recordings are arranged on library shelves by call number. Fiction books are arranged in alphabetical order by the author’s last name.

Directions  Look at the starting search screen for a library database below. For each of the numbered items, tell which of the six categories you would choose for each search. Then write the information you would enter into the library database.

1. Ray Charles’s autobiography

2. a Louis Armstrong recording on CD, audiotape, or vinyl LP

3. a biography of Louis Armstrong


5. a critical history of Motown Records

218 Research and Study Skills
Name ________________________________

Directions Use the following sample card from a library card catalog to answer the questions below.

L424.7 RE

Roots of Blues Music
Parker, Mark, 1959-

Blues has influenced many different types of music today. It changed the way many people felt about music, as well. Blues emerged after slavery was abolished and changed the way singers approached music. Blues is still a popular form of music played today.

Publisher: Wilson Musical Reference
Pub date: c2001.
Pages: 313 p.
ISBN: 0534212311

6. Who is the author of this reference book?

7. What is the book’s call number?

8. What is the title of the book?

9. How many pages does this book have? When was it published, and by whom?

10. What do you learn about the book from the card’s summary?

Home Activity Your child learned about using a library database and a card catalog. Visit the library with your child. Take turns searching for subjects that interest one or both of you.
Name ________________________________

One Consonant or Two

Proofread a Newspaper Article  Circle six misspelled words. Write the words correctly. Find one capitalization error. Write the sentence correctly.

Something odd happened in the students’ dining room. Some students wanted broccoli at every meal. Their opponents wanted zucchini. A committee was formed. They decided to take a vote. No one expected an immediate result. The committee had something surprising to announce. Most of the students preferred carrots!

1. ______________  2. ______________
3. ______________  4. ______________
5. ______________  6. ______________
7. __________________________________________

Proofread Words  Circle the correct spelling of the list words.

8. Memphis and Nashville are cities in ____.
   Tenessee   Tennese   Tennessee
9. Most students love ____ after being inside.
   recess   recess   recce
10. I ____ a collection of old comic books.
    posess   possess   posses
11. The settlers used a wooden plank to ____ the door.
    barricade   barricad   bariccade
12. I am hoping to ____ a lot this school year.
    accomplish   accomplish   accomplish
13. The bathroom ____ was foggy because of the steam from the shower.
    mirrer   miror   mirror
14. I will ____ the winner at the end of the game.
    announce   anounce   anounnce

Spelling Words

address   collar   mirror   recess
committee   collect
Mississippi   immediate   command
appreciate
announce   possess
Tennessee   gallop
opponent   broccoli
accomplish
allowance   zucchini

different   happened

Home Activity  Your child identified misspelled list words. Have your child tell you the three most difficult list words and then spell them to you.

220  Spelling  One Consonant or Two
Troublesome Verbs

Directions: Read the passage. Then read each question. Circle the letter of the correct answer.

The Missing Book

(1) My father had let me borrow his book about Bessie Smith, the great blues singer. (2) Last night, I (lay) on my bed, reading. (3) My mother called for dinner, so I (set) my book on the bed. (4) After dinner, I went back to my room to lie down with my book. (5) To my surprise, my book was not where I leaved it! (6) How would I learn what happened to Bessie when she left Chattanooga? (7) I (sit) down to consider where the book might have gone. (8) Later, I learned that my father had picked up the book and had set it down on the bookshelf.

1. Which form of the verb in parentheses best completes sentence 2?
   A. lay
   B. laid
   C. lie
   D. lain

2. Which form of the verb in parentheses best completes sentence 3?
   A. sit
   B. sat
   C. have set
   D. set

3. What change, if any, should be made in sentence 4?
   A. Change lie to laid
   B. Change lie to let
   C. Change lie to lay
   D. Make no change

4. What change, if any, should be made in sentence 5?
   A. Change leaved to leave
   B. Change leaved to left
   C. Change leaved to have left
   D. Make no change

5. Which form of the verb in parentheses best completes sentence 7?
   A. sat
   B. sit
   C. set
   D. have sat

Home Activity: Your child prepared for taking tests on principal parts of troublesome verbs. Ask your child to name the principal parts of the verbs lie, lay, sit, set, leave, and let and then use each part in a sentence.