INTERMEDIATE GRADES | NARRATIVE TEXT

Summarizing Stories with POWER!

A summary tells the most important parts of a story in your own words. It is much shorter than the original story.

P PLAN: Think and Talk About the Story

Talk with your partner or your teacher. Use the sentence starters if you need help.

Ask and discuss	You could say
Who is the main character? Where does the story take place?	*"The story is about _____, who..."*
What does the character want, or what problem does the character face?	*"The character wants _____, but..."*
Which events are most important to understanding the story?	*"First..." "Then..."*
How do the character's actions affect what happens next?	*"Because _____, ..."*
How does the problem get solved, or how does the story end?	*"In the end..."*

O ORGANIZE: Get Your Ideas Ready

Write short notes about the most important parts of the story.

Character & Setting *Who is the story about? Where does it take place, if that's important?*	**Problem or Goal** *What does the character want or need? What gets in the way?*
Important Events *Which events help us understand what happens with the problem or the goal?*	**Resolution** *How is the problem resolved? What happens in the end?*

W WRITE: Say It, Then Write It

First, use your organizer to tell your partner or your teacher what happened in the story. Explain how the important events connect to each other.

Then write a short paragraph summarizing the story. Include the problem, the most important events, and the resolution or ending. Use your own words.

Need help getting started? Try these sentence frames:

"The story is about..."

"The main character wants _____, but..."

"First, _____. Then, _____. In the end, _____."

E EDIT: Check Your Writing

- ☐ I wrote complete sentences that make sense.
- ☐ I checked capitalization and punctuation.
- ☐ I checked the spelling of words I wasn't sure about.

R REVISE: Make Your Summary Stronger

Reread your summary. If something is missing or unclear, make changes to improve it.

- ☐ I introduced the main character and included the setting if it was important.
- ☐ I explained the character's problem or goal.
- ☐ I included the most important events and showed how they connect.
- ☐ I explained the resolution or ending.
- ☐ I used my own words.
- ☐ I left out unnecessary details and my personal opinions.

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