INTERMEDIATE GRADES | INFORMATIONAL TEXT

Summarizing Informational Text with POWER!

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

P PLAN: Think and Talk About the Text

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

Ask and discuss	You could say
What is this text mostly about?	*"This text is about..."*
What is the most important idea the author wants us to understand?	*"The main idea is..."*
Which details help explain the main idea?	*"One important detail is..."* *"Another important detail is..."*
How does each detail connect to the main idea?	*"The detail shows..."*
Are there any details we could leave out? Why?	*"We could leave out _____ because..."*

O ORGANIZE: Get Your Ideas Ready

Write short notes about the main idea and the most important supporting details.

Topic *What is the text about?*	**Main Idea** *What is the most important idea the author wants us to understand about the topic?*
Important Details *Which details best help explain the main idea?*	
Detail 1:	**Detail 2:** / **Detail 3 (if needed):**

W WRITE: Say It, Then Write It

First, use your organizer to explain the text to your partner or your teacher. State the main idea and explain how the important details support it.

Then write a short paragraph summarizing the text. Introduce the topic, explain the main idea, and include the most important supporting details. Use your own words and leave out unnecessary information.

Need help getting started? Try these sentence frames:

"The text explains..."

"The main idea is..."

"One important detail is..."
"Another important detail is..."

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 topic and clearly explained the main idea.
- ☐ I included the most important details that support the main idea.
- ☐ I showed how the important details connect to the main idea.
- ☐ I organized my ideas so they are easy to follow.
- ☐ I used my own words.
- ☐ I left out unnecessary details and my personal opinions.

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