

Main Idea Answer Key

This worksheet reviews identifying the main idea of a paragraph.

Students are to read the paragraphs then choose the main idea for each. (It is fine for the teacher to read the paragraphs aloud if the student cannot.)

1. How are frogs and lions alike? They are both carnivores. This means they both eat only meat. Do frogs hunt zebras? No. What a frog eats depends on how big the frog is. Small frogs eat small bugs, like flies and moths. Bigger frogs eat bigger bugs, like grasshoppers. The biggest frogs may eat snakes, mice, and even other frogs.

The main idea of this is:

- A. Frogs are like lions.
- B. Frogs don't hunt zebras.
- C. Different frogs eat different animals.
- D. Frogs are creepy.

2. All plants need rain. But where does rain come from? Rain is part of something called the **water cycle**. Most of the earth is covered in water. The sun heats the water. This makes it **evaporate**. This means it turns into a gas called **water vapor**. This water vapor goes into the air. Then it cools and becomes clouds. When a cloud gets too heavy, the water falls back to earth again as rain.

The main idea of this is:

- A. All plants need rain.
- B. To explain how the water cycle creates rain.
- C. To complain about bad weather.
- D. To tell you what **evaporate** means.

2. Red is Jada's favorite color. She says it is a happy color. Many of the things she loves are red: roses, apples, strawberries. She says red looks loud and friendly, like her. She thinks red clothes look nice against her dark brown skin. Red is also one of the colors of her favorite holiday, Christmas.

The main idea of this is:

- A. To tell why Jada's favorite color is red.
- B. To make you like red too.
- C. Red is the best color.
- D. To list red foods.