

Scaffolding the Identification of Main Ideas in Text

- Provide the number of details to locate for each paragraph.
- Encourage the use of pictures, symbols, and diagrams.
- Provide templates with completed portions of the Main Idea and Notes sections and portions containing blanks to be filled in by the student.
- When necessary, return to modeling how to write main ideas and select important details.
- Gradually increase students' responsibility for grasping the main idea of text.