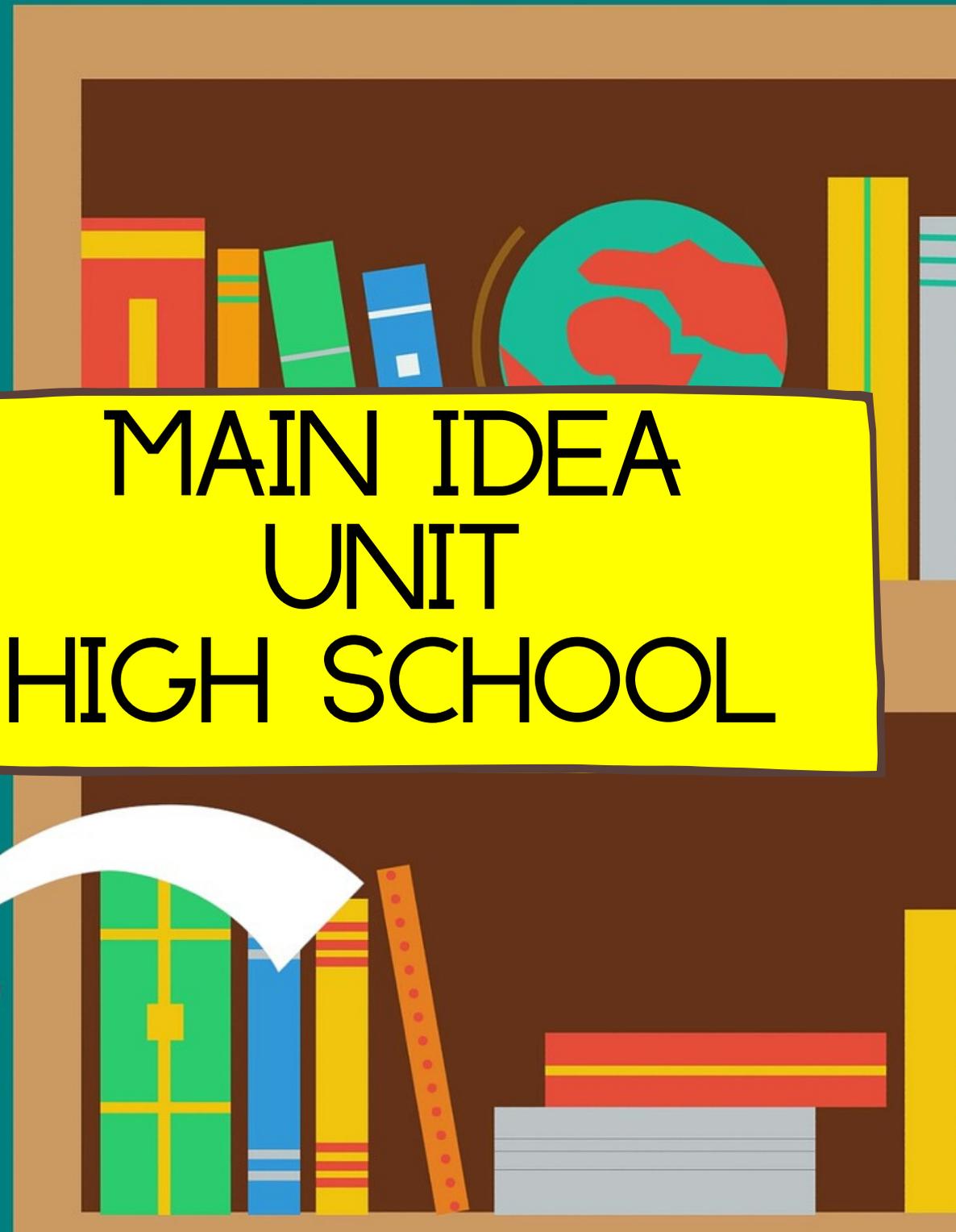


SPECIAL ED



MAIN IDEA
UNIT
HIGH SCHOOL



Special Needs for Special Kids



This unit was created with this guy in mind. He has autism and an intellectual disability. He is a non-reader, and loves a good story. With some support he is able to do this unit, and enjoys the challenge. He is my tester!!

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79-87	Color in the main idea and supporting details
88-94	Find the main idea that go with the supporting details
95-100	Find the supporting details that go with the main idea
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114-115	Wordsearch
116-121	Cloze worksheets
122-139	Assessments
140-141	Terms of Use

In a separate files there are:

- lesson plan
- voice recorded PowerPoint
- Directions and links to digital activities

This unit contains over 150 pages of material along with google slides. I have included a detailed lesson plan to help you make the most of everything in this unit including how to add some group activities.

Main Idea Lesson Plan

Preparation

- Print out a vocabulary board for each student to use throughout unit
 - Laminate or place in page protector
- Book
 - Print out, laminate, and bind
 - OR your students can listen to the pre-recorded version
- Vocabulary cards
 - Print out a set of cards onto cardstock and laminate
 - Make one set for each student and also one for the teacher to use in I Spy games

Preassessment (do day 1 before starting lesson)

- Choose the form of the assessment that best fits the learning level of your students
- Give the assessment to assess what your students may already know
- I cannot emphasize enough how important this step is. If you want to see growth, this preassessment is so important!!

Teaching Tips

1. *Color Coding:* this is a really easy way to add more structure to a matching activity. Outline or color in an empty box or sorting label. Outline or color in the corresponding picture symbols the same colors. Becomes a color matching task.
 - a. For more info, read more here:
<https://specialneedsforspecialkids.org/2015/09/05/using-color-coding-for-differentiation/>
 - b. I also have a blog post on differentiating one activity 3 ways:
<https://specialneedsforspecialkids.org/2018/10/22/differentiating-1-activity-3-ways-easily-and-effectively/>
2. *Make your own copies of the activities:* Every day I review the activity we did yesterday. For that reason:
 - a. I often complete the activity myself and often laminated it for easy review that I could use year after year.
 - b. My copies were also helpful as either a model for students who needed more support or as a way for more advanced students to self-check their work.
3. *Options for Use:* Turn any activity into a reusable file folder activity by laminating and adding Velcro.

The lesson plans contain:

Overall tips for teaching students with significant needs

Quick Look

Day	Activity	Day	Activity
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab cards activity• Circle map	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab cards activity OR alternate activity• Find the main idea that goes with supporting details
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab cards activity• Which does not belong	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab cards activity OR alternate activity• Find the supporting details that goes with the main idea
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab cards activity• Which does not belong	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab cards activity OR alternate activity• Find the supporting details that goes with the main idea
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab cards activity• What is the common topic	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocabulary cut and paste• Sudoku puzzle
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab cards activity• What is the common topic	13	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocabulary cut and paste• Word search
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab cards activity• Color in main idea and supporting details	14	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab cards activity OR alternate activity• Close worksheet
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab cards activity OR alternate activity• Color in main idea and supporting details	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assessment
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab cards activity OR alternate activity• Find the main idea that goes with supporting details		

The lesson plans contain:

A quick look at what you will do each day

Day 8

Activity	Notes	Materials
Read or listen to a recording of the book (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read through the story, asking lots of questions• Continue to make connections between book and vocabulary board	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocabulary board
Vocabulary cards student choice or alternate activity (15 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students choose their favorite past vocabulary game• Or do the alternate activity described on page 3 of these lesson plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vocabulary cards•
Coloring activity review (5 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review the coloring activity completed yesterday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coloring activity completed yesterday
Find the main idea (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do the first worksheet where students find the main idea of a popular story given 3 supporting details.• See worksheet set for differentiation suggestions• Make connections to the book as necessary and past stories read	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• worksheet• Scissors• Glue
Sharing (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have each student share their finished worksheet	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finished worksheet• Communication devices

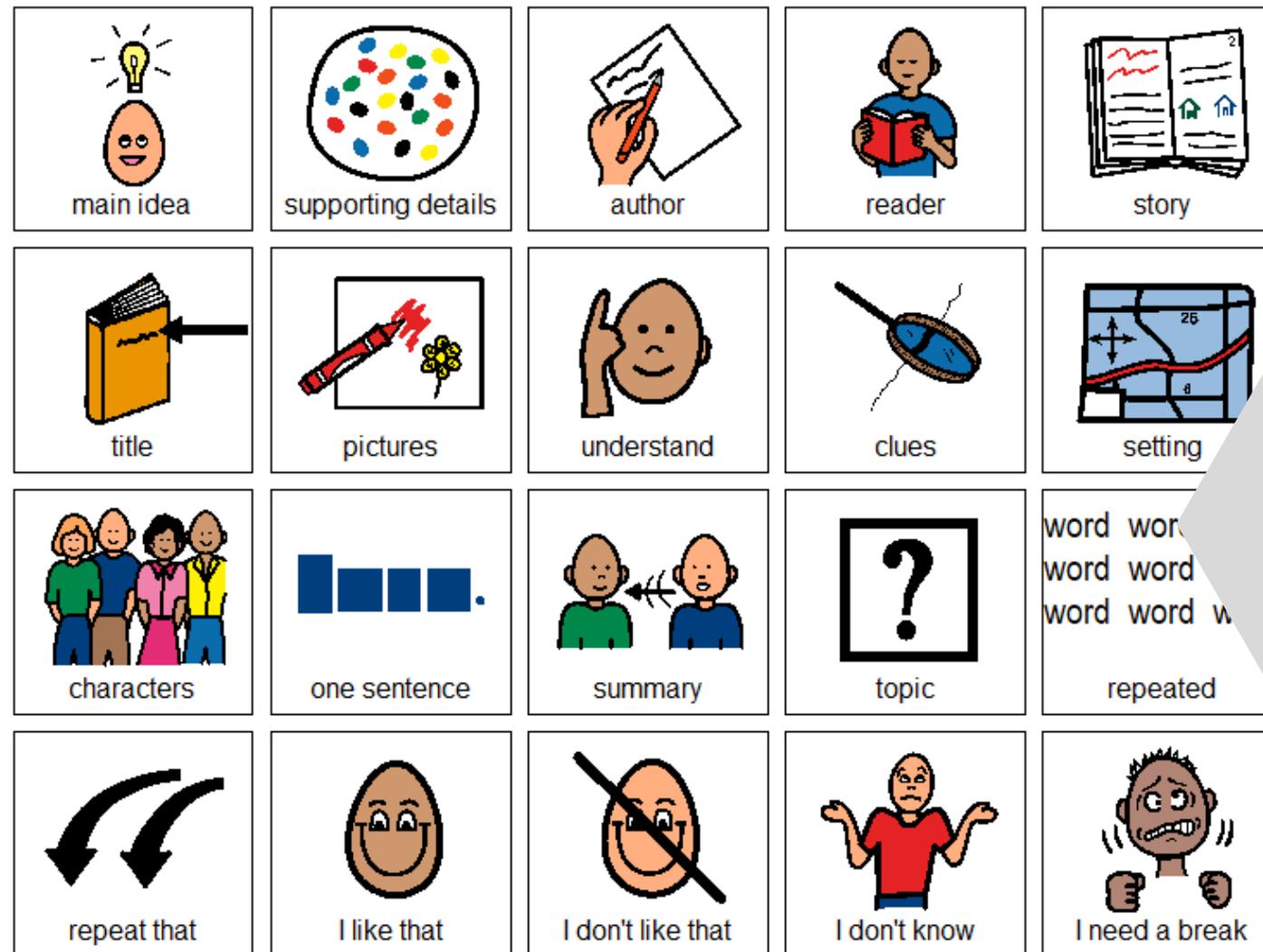
The lesson plans contain:

Detailed instructions on how that day's lesson should run

This unit comes with a vocabulary board.

Vocabulary boards are great for ALL students to assist with participation and engagement in group discussions.

Tips on how to use in the unit!!



The main idea of a story ties all the elements and details in the story together. It is what the author is trying to tell you about a certain **topic**.



Supporting details can also be the **setting** of the story. When and where it takes place adds to the main idea.



There is a book with this unit using simple text and photos. It is 35 pages and goes through how mood and tone affect the story.

It comes in a pdf version as well as a voice-recorded PowerPoint (so you don't have to print it out.)

characters

People in the story and are a supporting detail.



summary

Relates the overall sequence of events that happened in the story. Usually 2 or more sentences.



illustrations

Pictures in the story or on the cover.



topic

What the story is about.



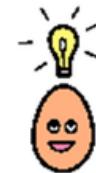
author

The person who writes the story.



main idea

The overall message the author tells the reader about.



supporting details

Things in the story that help build the main idea.



setting

When and where the story takes place.



There are 8 vocabulary cards that come in color and black and white.

Included are suggestions for group activities to do with these each day.

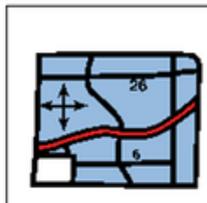
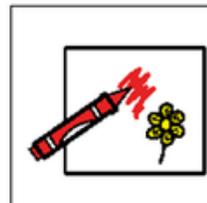
author

The person who writes the story.



main idea

The overall message the author is trying to tell the reader about the story.



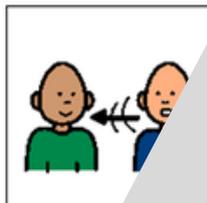
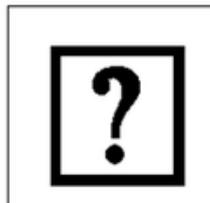
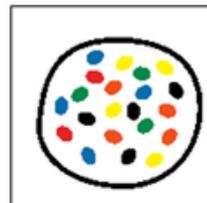
supporting details

Things in the story that help build the main idea.



setting

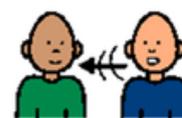
When and where the story takes place.



characters



summary



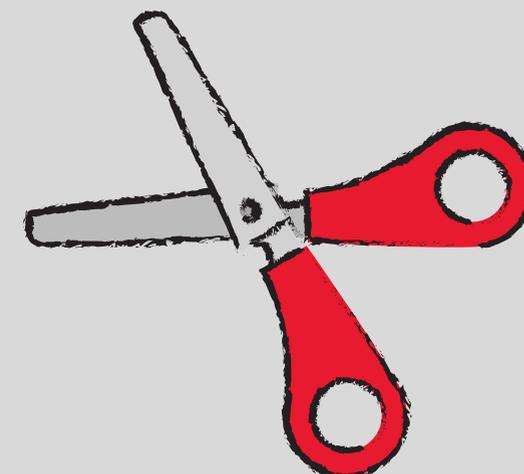
illustrations

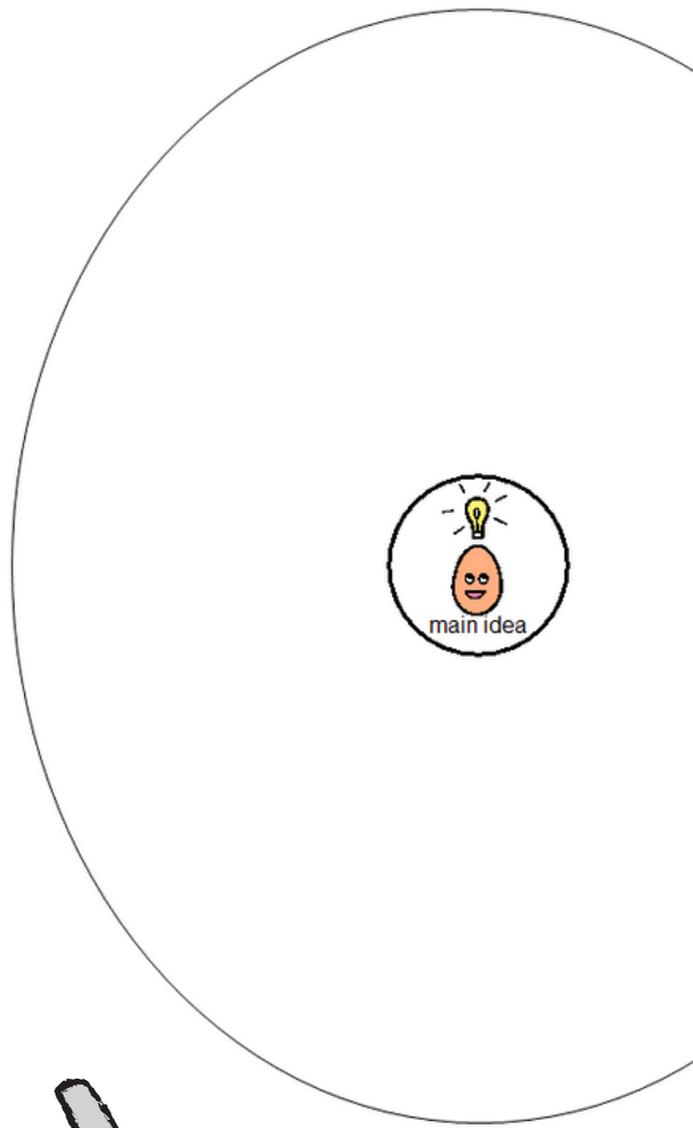


topic



On days 12&13 there is an activity where students will match either the picture to the definition or the definition to the picture (harder).





Errorless version

Cut apart pictures and place in circle map about or support the main idea.

topic	supporting details	title	one sentence	illustrations
what author is saying	first sentence	clues	setting	characters

Cut apart pictures and place in circle map **ONLY IF** they are about or support the main idea.

topic	bath	title	one sentence	puppy
what author is saying	first sentence	park	setting	characters
pizza	supporting details	clues	couch	illustrations

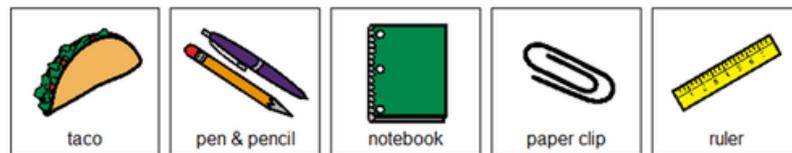
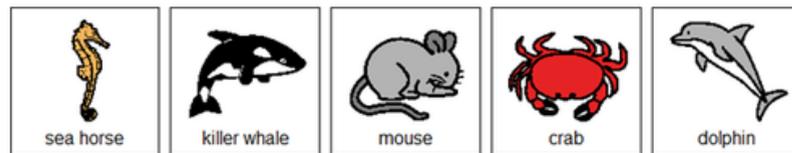
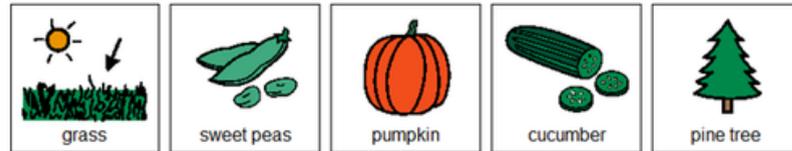
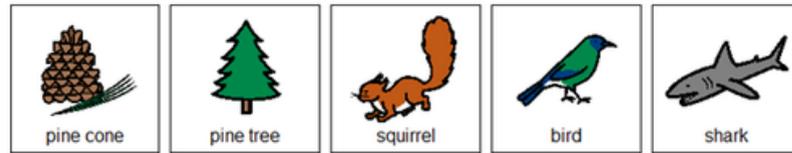
There is 1 circle map on main idea.

Circle maps are a great way for students to see the concept at a glance. There are 2 versions:

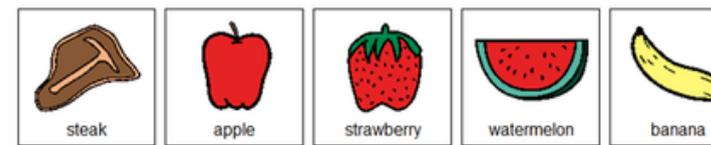
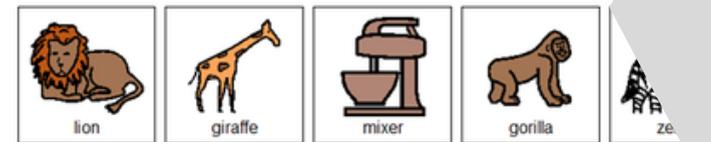
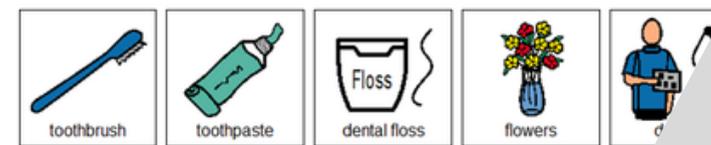
- One is errorless
- One has wrong answers mixed in students will have to set aside



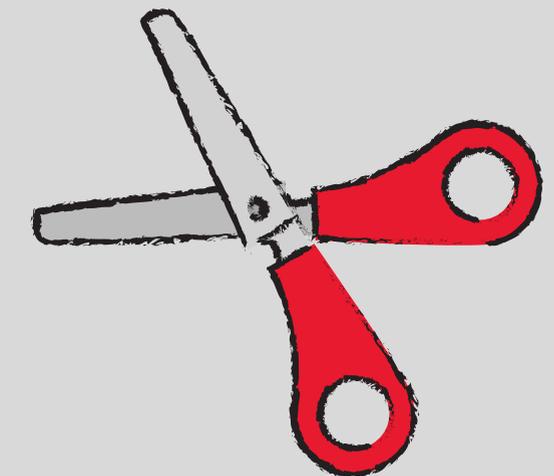
Circle or mark the one that does not belong in each group.



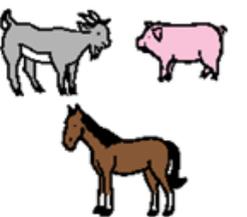
Circle or mark the one that does not belong in each group.



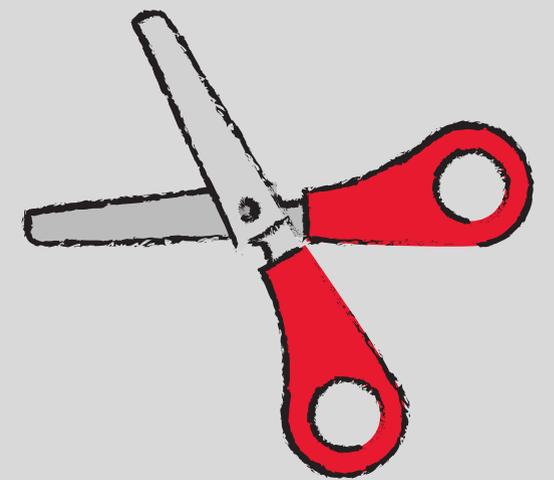
There are several activities that work on building skills to help find the main idea. This one has students identify which pictures does not belong.



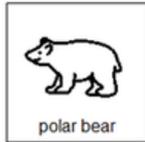
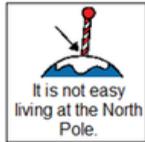
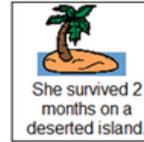
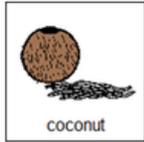
Find and match the characteristic the 3 objects all have in common.

	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>

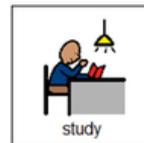
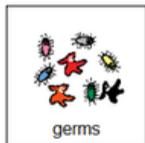
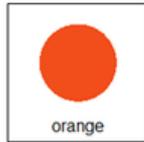
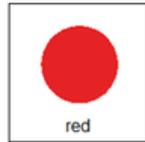
This activity has students match the common topic of three pictures.



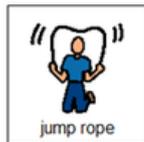
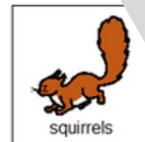
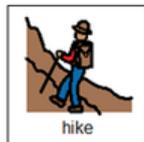
Color the supporting details **yellow**.
Color the main idea **blue**.



Color the supporting details **yellow**.
Color the main idea **blue**.

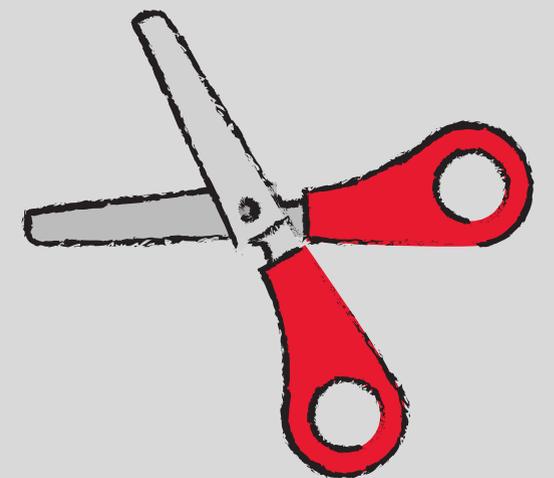


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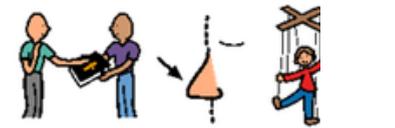


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This activity had students color in the supporting details yellow and the main idea blue.



Find the main idea of each group of supporting details below.

 <input type="text"/>	 <input type="text"/>
 <input type="text"/>	 <input type="text"/>
 <input type="text"/>	 <input type="text"/>

Match the characteristic below with the best group from the previous page.

Set 1

Jack grows a beanstalk and steals from the giant to make money to survive.	Pinocchio wants to be a real boy, but his nose keeps growing whenever he tells a lie.
After eating a poisoned apple from a witch, Snow White falls into a deep sleep.	Cinderella is rescued from her wicked stepmother when the prince fits the glass slipper onto her foot.
Goldilocks gets lost in the woods and falls asleep inside the bears' house.	3 pigs learn how important hard work is to protect themselves from danger like a big bad wolf.

Now students start working with actual stories that are hopefully familiar to them. This activity it gives students 3 supporting details and they find the main idea that goes with them.

Find the supporting details for each main idea below.

<p>Nemo found out there was a lot to learn about in the big ocean.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; height: 60px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> </div>	<p>Buzz and Wood teamed up to save the toys and be reunited with Andy.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; height: 60px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> </div>
<p>James escapes from his wicked aunts in a giant peach and makes all kinds of new friends along the way.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; height: 60px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> </div>	<p>The man and the old woman made a pot of delicious soup starting with only a stone.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; height: 60px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> </div>
<p>Little Red Riding Hood learned to never talk to strangers when walking in the woods to grandmother's house.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; height: 60px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> </div>	<p>Rudolph's nose saved the day when it was too foggy for Santa to drive his sled.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; height: 60px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> </div>

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Match the supporting details to the main ideas on the previous page.

Set 1

This activity gives students the main idea, and students find 3 supporting details. Again, familiar stories are used, but if needed, you can use YouTube videos to review the story.

Main Idea

	main idea	characters		supporting details	
author	supporting details			main idea	
characters		supporting details	?	author	main idea
?			characters		supporting details
main idea		setting	supporting details	?	
supporting details	?	author			setting

Place the following images in the empty squares on the previous page, completing the sudoku puzzle.

author	author	author	main idea	main idea
setting	setting	setting	setting	characters
characters	characters	?	?	

Main Idea

	setting		
main idea		setting	
	?	supporting details	main idea
	main idea		setting

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There is a Sudoku puzzle in this unit as well. This is a great way to work with the new vocabulary!!

There are 2 versions plus answer keys.



Main Idea

UDNASBJBWJWDOHXAWWHW
JZTOPICWNTZACLTITLEC
HFUSPPOZZQJZYUCIZIUA
LJPTMNI EKNHZGRIDIZSG
FVYCAMLCJKWZGHLEIOUV
ZFHCI ZLBQRLMTWGE GEPV
ANURNXULXANUWKILGTPF
YWWR IISOJJXRTHCMTSOQ
KNSGDZTYJWATFCSPPORI
NNEJEFRTJPMRMFFDTM
XHTRASARTBXPDSMQHAID
ZPTOSUTDKAZYVZWSZNO
ENISQMILYKRORFDLXIGZ
WLNQDMOTAUTHORVNFIDR
YTG MHANEHAURWEEDHBEJ
LYI IERAUVLWMOKLYYQTD
YYDXUYCHARACTERSNTAV
WCYRKFBUVPPXHPRLTVIC
QHEVEXSUMMARYHLJEHL
BWSPLYJZUMTHTUBRBKLSN

supporting details	illustration	characters	main idea
setting	summary	author	topic
summary	title		

Main Idea

UDNASBJBWJWDOHXAWWHW
JZTOPICWNTZACLTITLEC
HFUSPPOZZQJZYUCIZIUA
LJPTMNI EKNHZGRIDIZSG
FVYCAMLCJKWZGHLEIOUV
ZFHCI ZLBQRLMTWGE GEPV
ANURNXULXANUWKILGTPF
YWWR IISOJJXRTHCMTSOQ
KNSGDZTYJWATFCSPPORI
NNEJEFRTJPMRMFFDTM
XHTRASARTBXPDSMQHAID
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ENISQMILYKRORFDLXIGZ
WLNQDMOTAUTHORVNFIDR
YTG MHANEHAURWEEDHBEJ
LYI IERAUVLWMOKLYYQTD
YYDXUYCHARACTERSNTAV
WCYRKFBUVPPXHPRLTVIC
QHEVEXSUMMARYHLJEHL
BWSPLYJZUMTHTUBRBKLSN

supporting details	illustration	characters	main idea
setting	summary	author	topic
summary	title		

There is also a word search to work with vocabulary. If your students cannot do a word search, have them highlight the circle words on the answer key.

Main Idea

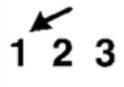
1. The main idea tells you about the of the book.

2. The main idea is what the want you to know.

3. The on the cover of the book can give you a clue to the main idea.

4. Sometimes, the main idea is introduced in the sentence

5. The author will add lots of to make the story more interesting.

 title	 topic	 supporting details	 first	 author
--	--	---	--	---

Main Idea

6. The is important to the main idea and tells you and where the story occurs.

7. You can tell someone the main idea in

8. The pictures or are also supporting details to the main idea.

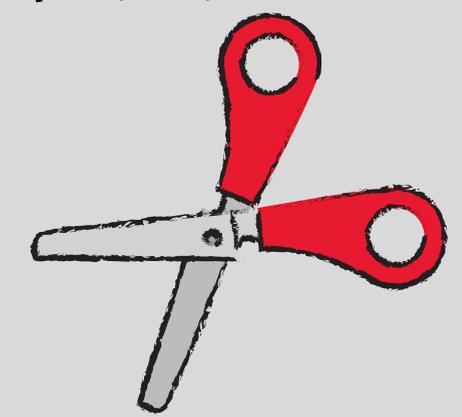
9. You can also look for words that are as a clue to the main idea.

10. The main idea is the overall the author wants you to know.

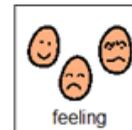
word word word word word word word word word word word word repeated	 setting	 message	 illustrations	1 one
--	--	--	--	-----------------

Close worksheets are a great informal assessment. There are two worksheets that cover mood and one that covers tone.

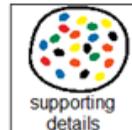
Answer key included.



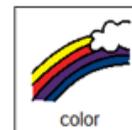
1. The main idea is the overall what?



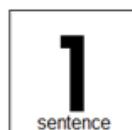
2. The setting, characters, and mood of the book are examples of:



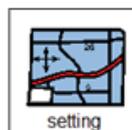
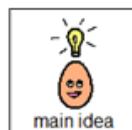
3. You can look at what on the cover to get clues to the main idea?



4. The main idea can be told to someone in:



5. The general subject of the book is the:

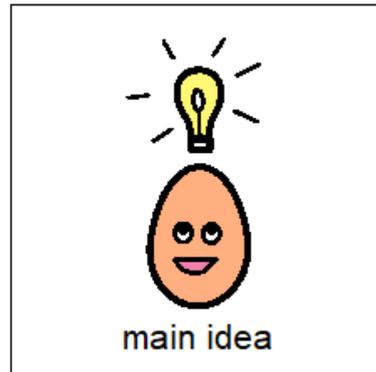
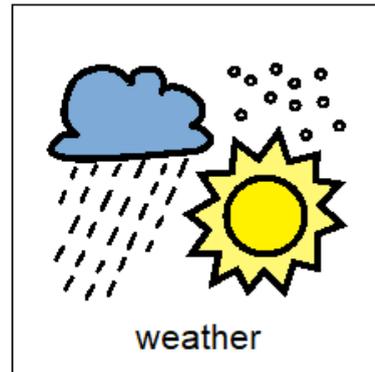
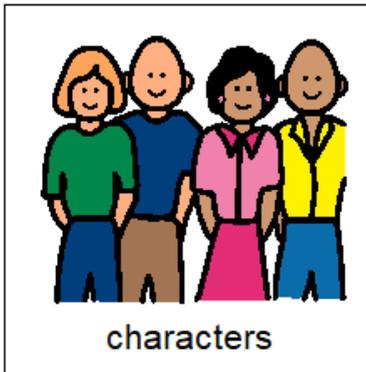


FINALLY the assessment!! There are 3 versions. This version has 10 questions with 3 picture choices for each question.

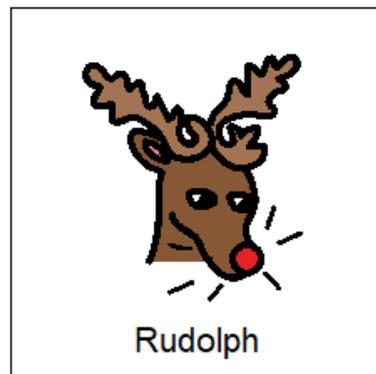
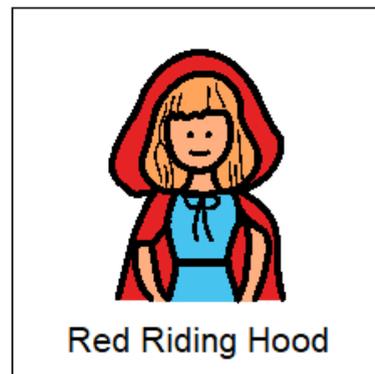
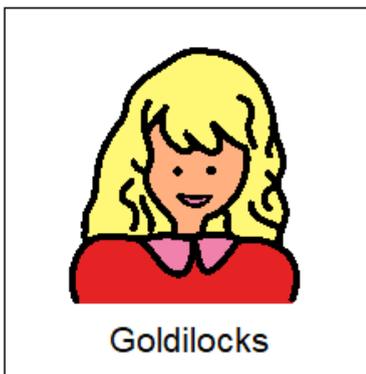
Answer key included.

Print onto cardstock or mount on index cards. Cut pictures apart and show student answer choices for each question.

Q 7



Q 8



With this version, you cut out the answer choices and glue them on index cards. Ask the student the question, and they point to the correct answer.

1. The main idea is the overall what?
 - A. Message
 - B. Feeling
 - C. Setting
2. The setting, characters, and mood of the book are examples of:
 - A. Topics
 - B. Supporting details
 - C. Desk items
3. You can look at what on the cover to get clues to the main idea?
 - A. Autor's name
 - B. Color
 - C. Title
4. The main idea can be told to someone in:
 - A. 5 sentences
 - B. 1 sentence
 - C. Paragraph
5. The general subject of the book is the:
 - A. Topic
 - B. Main idea
 - C. Setting
6. Circle all the supporting details in the 3 Little Pigs:
 - A. Bad wolf
 - B. Pig 1
 - C. Pig 2
 - D. Pig 3
 - E. Coffee
 - F. Brick house

This is your traditional multiple choice version. It can also be used as a recording sheet if your students are using the version with index cards.

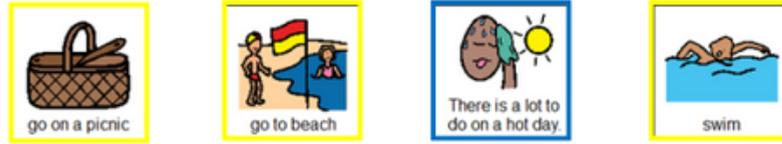
Watch the
movie on Main
Idea

The **characters** also add supporting details to the main idea. Who does what when in the story is important and is part of the overall message the author is trying to send.

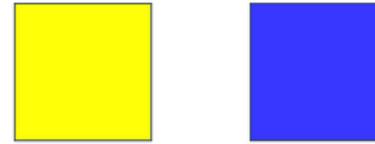


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This unit also has 46
google slides. This
includes a movie
version of the book.



Color the supporting details **yellow**.
Color the main idea **blue**.

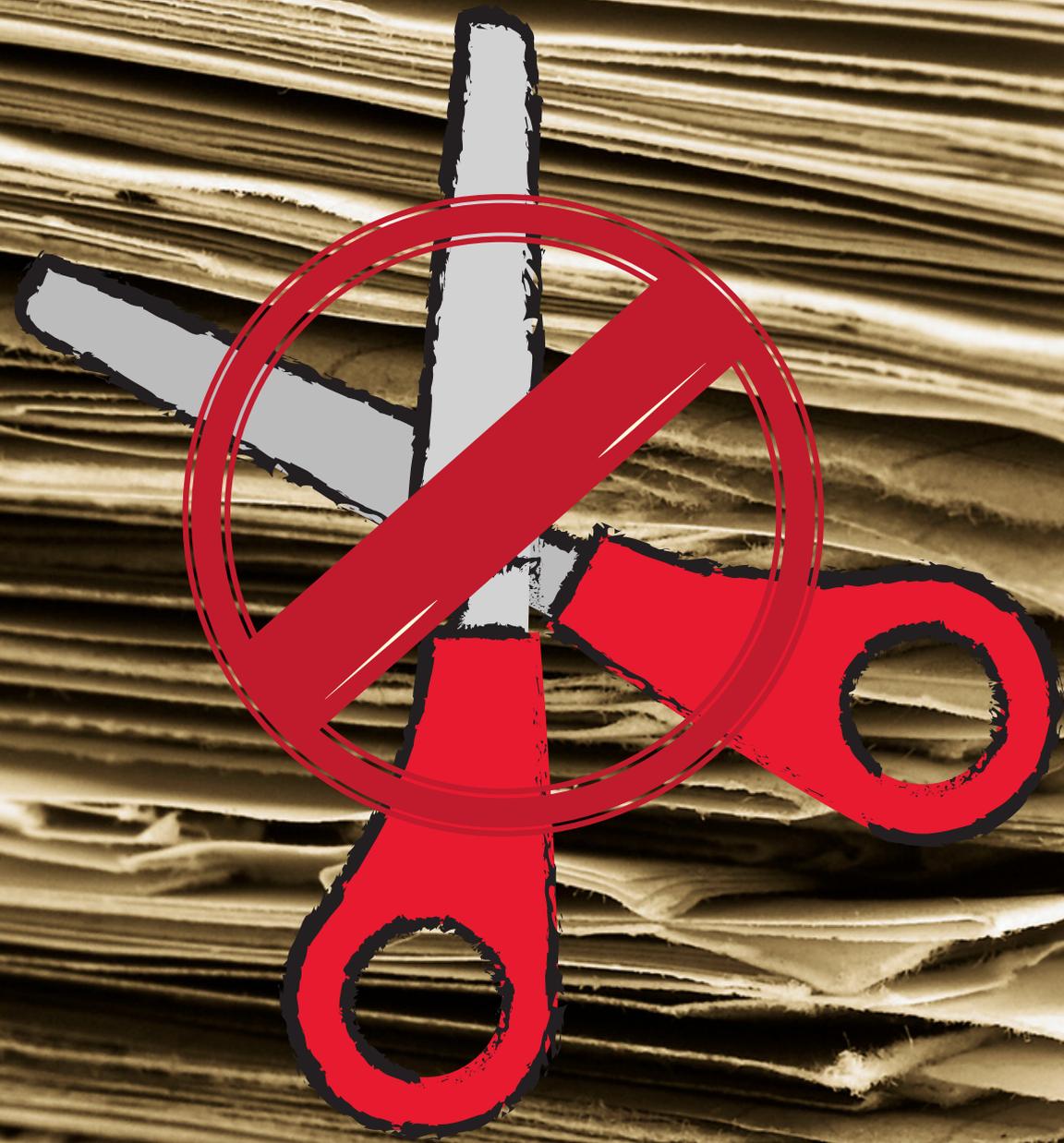


<p>The young raccoon was nervous about going to school until his mom gave him a kiss to keep in his hand.</p>	<p>The princess was able to escape from the castle by allowing the prince to use her long hair to help free her.</p>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid red; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid red; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid red; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> </div>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid yellow; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid yellow; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid yellow; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> </div>
<p>A boy gets on a train to the North Pole and learns that Santa is real.</p>	<p>A doctor learns to talk to animals and goes to Africa to save a troop of sick monkeys.</p>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid blue; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid blue; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid blue; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> </div>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid green; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid green; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid green; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> </div>
<p>Mr. Popper realizes that penguins really should live at the North Pole, so he moves there with them.</p>	<p>Simba realizes he must return home to take back control of the jungle from his evil uncle, Scar.</p>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid magenta; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid magenta; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid magenta; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> </div>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid cyan; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid cyan; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid cyan; width: 30px; height: 30px;"></div> </div>

Find the supporting details of each main idea.



There are 2 sets of slides (23 in each set). The second set is differentiated using color. They have students click and drag pictures to manipulate.



[**Click Here to read more!!**](#)

I realize there will be some students out there unable to do cutting activities. I have a blog post with ways to complete activities without a pair of scissors!!

All of the activities (except the book) come in color and black and white.