INFORMATIONAL WRITING · GRADES 3–5 · 3 OF 5

Main Idea and Details Table



A main idea is like a tabletop. The details are the legs that hold it up. Plan a paragraph that teaches.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Main idea (the tabletop) What is the big thing you want to teach?

Detail 1

Detail 2

Detail 3

Closing sentence Say the main idea again in new words.

Did you...

- ☐ **start with the main idea?**
- ☐ **give three details?**
- ☐ **use facts, not opinions?**
- ☐ **end with a closing sentence?**

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