TEACHER KEY · LESSON WORKSHEET · GRADE 5 · 5.RC.6 & 5.RC.8

Main Ideas & Text Structure

Fill in each part when its number appears on the slide.

PART 1 · TARGET

I can find the main ideas of an informational text, choose the details that support them, and name the text structure.

PART 2 · WARM-UP

1. What is the difference between a main idea and a detail?
   Key: The main idea is what the text is mostly about; details support or explain it.
2. Name a signal word that shows order (sequence).
   Key: First, next, then, finally, after, before.
3. Read: "Bees pollinate flowers. They make honey. Some bees live in hives of 50,000." What is the main idea?
   Key: Bees are important/busy insects that do many jobs.

PART 3 · PREDICTION

A table has a top and legs. If the tabletop is the main idea, what are the legs?

Circle one: [ ] Key details [ ] The title [ ] The pictures

PART 4 · VOCABULARY

Word	Meaning
Main idea	The most important point the author makes about the topic.
Key detail	A fact, example, or reason that supports the main idea.
Text structure	How an author organizes information.
Signal words	Words that hint at structure: first/then (sequence), because/as a result (cause-effect), however/both (compare), problem/solution.

PART 5 · FIND THE MAIN IDEA

The MAIN IDEA is what every sentence has in COMMON.

Check: Tap the sentence that states the main idea.

Underline the answer: Wetlands are some of the most useful places on Earth. They soak up floodwater like sponges. They clean water as it flows through plants. They give homes to thousands of kinds of birds.

Key: Wetlands are some of the most useful places on Earth.. The other sentences support it.

PART 6 · KEY DETAILS VS. INTERESTING DETAILS

KEY DETAILS support the main idea. Interesting facts that do not support it are not key.

Check: Main idea: Wetlands protect towns from floods. Which detail supports it?

Circle one: (A) Wetlands soak up extra rainwater. (B) Frogs croak loudly at night. (C) Some wetlands are

very old. (D) Herons are tall birds.

Key: (A) Wetlands soak up extra rainwater. Soaking up rain connects to floods.

PART 7 · TWO OR MORE MAIN IDEAS

Longer texts can have TWO OR MORE main ideas, often one per SECTION.

Check: An article has headings "How Bees Make Honey" and "Why Bees Are Disappearing." How many main ideas are there?

Circle one: (A) At least two (B) One (C) None (D) Only the title

Key: (A) At least two. Each section develops its own main idea.

PART 8 · TEXT STRUCTURE

Signal words like "because" and "as a result" show CAUSE AND EFFECT. "First" and "then" show SEQUENCE.

Check: "Because the river flooded, the town built a levee." The structure is:

Circle one: (A) Sequence (B) Description (C) Compare and contrast (D) Cause and effect

Key: (D) Cause and effect. "Because" signals a cause.

PART 9 · WORKED EXAMPLE

1. Paragraph: "Monarch butterflies travel up to 3,000 miles each fall. They fly south to forests in Mexico. They rest in the same trees every year. Monarchs are orange and black."
2. Step 1: What do most sentences have in common? The long trip.
3. Step 2: Main idea: Monarchs make a long journey to Mexico each fall.
4. Step 3: "Orange and black" is interesting but does not support the trip. It is not a key detail.

PART 10 · WE DO

Paragraph: "Because farmers cleared forests, rain washed soil into rivers. As a result, fish lost their habitats." Name the structure and the signal words.

Answer: Cause and effect ("because," "as a result")

PART 11 · YOU DO

"Unlike alligators, crocodiles have narrow snouts. Both live in warm water." The structure is:

Circle one: (A) Problem and solution (B) Description (C) Compare and contrast (D) Sequence

Key: (C) Compare and contrast. "Unlike" and "both" signal compare and contrast.

PART 12 · WORK TIME: THE CASE OF THE SCRAMBLED ARTICLES

Write each code piece as you earn it: File 1: F File 2: A File 3: C File 4: T File 5: S

Final code: FACTS

PART 13 · WRAP-UP

Was your prediction in Part 3 right? One thing I learned today:

Key: Bees are important/busy insects that do many jobs.