Main Idea and Supporting Details - Grade 2 Teaching Pack

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Topic or detail?

Read the English paragraph. Explain in either language.

> A dog needs fresh water each day. Its owner gives it food. Walks help the dog get exercise.

1. Is the paragraph mostly about a dog's color or caring for a dog?

2. Name one care action.

3. Does the text tell the dog's color?

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2. Choose an idea that fits all details

Ask: do most sentences help explain this idea?

A library helps people learn. People can borrow books there. They can find information for a project. A library also offers a quiet place to read.

1. Choose: A) Libraries help people in several ways. B) Every library book is about birds.

2. Copy or tell two supporting details.

3. Why does B not fit?

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3. Find the garden paragraph's main idea

Write a sentence broad enough for the whole paragraph.

A school garden is a place to learn. Students measure how tall plants grow. They watch insects visit flowers. They record changes in a notebook.

1. What is the main idea?

2. Name two details supporting your idea.

3. Is "a ruler can be long" a supporting detail from this text?

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4. Replace a narrow main idea

Compare the proposed main idea with every sentence.

> The family is getting ready to move. They pack books in boxes. They wrap cups so the cups will not break. They make a list of things to take.

1. A reader says the main idea is "There are boxes." Why is it too narrow?

2. Write a better main idea.

3. Add a new detail that would fit. Label it as your own idea.

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5. Main idea plus evidence

Write one main idea and two supporting details.

> Our class keeps the room ready for learning. We return books to the shelf. We wipe the tables. We put pencils in a cup so they are easy to find.

1. What is the main idea?

2. Give two supporting details.

3. Would "all pencils are yellow" fit as the main idea? Why?