

Comprehension

C. 015

Expository Text Structure

Main Idea Highlights



Objective

The student will identify details and main idea in text.



Materials

Expository text

Choose a one-page passage within students' instructional-independent reading level range. Note: It should be emphasized that highlighting is strategic and specific. Only important words should be highlighted.

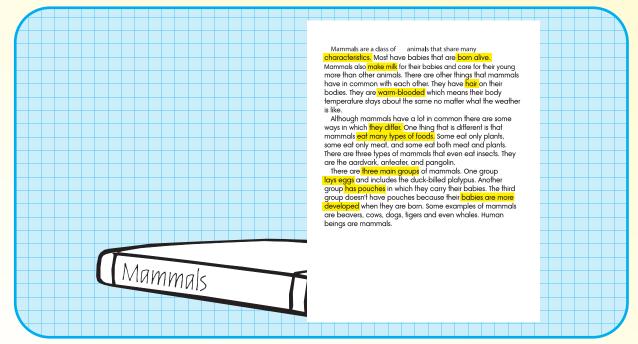
- ► Highlighter
- Pencil



Activity

Students identify the main idea and details by highlighting words and phrases that pertain to a specific topic.

- 1. Place highlighter at the center. Provide the student with a copy of the text.
- 2. Student reads the entire text.
- 3. Rereads and decides which words and phrases are important for understanding the text.
- 4. Uses highlighter to mark important words and phrases.
- 5. Continues until all important words are highlighted.
- 6. Writes a main idea sentence for each paragraph based on the highlighted words on the back of the page.
- 7. Teacher evaluation





Extensions and Adaptations

- ▶ Write a summary for the text based on the main idea sentences.
- Use different colored highlighters to mark words or phrases (e.g., blue for main idea words or phrases, green for important details, yellow for examples).