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).