Comprehension

Expository Text Structure

Main Idea Mania

Objective
The student will identify supporting details and main ideas in text.

Materials

- Expository text
  Choose text within students' instructional-independent reading level range.
- Sticky notes
  Place sticky notes strategically throughout the text in places where it is appropriate to stop and identify supporting details and main ideas.
- Student sheet
  Provide enough copies to record main ideas in text. Can be copied double-sided and stapled.
- Pencils

Activity

Students determine main ideas and supporting details by discussing text.

1. Provide each student with a copy of the text. Provide multiple student sheets (depending on the number of main ideas). Students will share these sheets.
2. Taking turns, student one writes and reads the topic and the text aloud until designated stopping point.
3. Brainstorms and discusses the main idea and its supporting details with student two.
4. Writes the main idea statement and the supporting details on the student sheet in designated areas.
5. Hands student sheet to student two and reverse roles.
6. Continue until the text is read and all main ideas and supporting details are recorded.
7. Teacher evaluation

Extensions and Adaptations

- Use other graphic organizers.
- Write main ideas and supporting details on separate index cards to play a memory game or exchange with a partner to match together.
Name

Main Idea Mania

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Topic: ____________________________

Supporting Details

1. ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________

2. ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________

3. ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
Main Idea Mania

Name

Main Idea: 

Supporting Details: 
1. 
2. 
3. 

Main Idea: 

Supporting Details: 
1. 
2. 
3. 

Main Idea: 

Supporting Details: 
1. 
2. 
3. 

Details: 
1. 
2. 
3. 

Details: 
1. 
2. 
3. 

Details: 
1. 
2. 
3. 

Topic