

# Find the Main Idea

The main idea of a text is the *most important point* that the author is making about the topic/subject.

The details are the key points that support the main idea.

## Finding the main idea:

- Read the title and look at the pictures for clues.
- As you read, think about and identify the important information.
- Look for repeated words, pictures, information, themes or ideas.
- Ask yourself 'What is the text mostly about?'



## Slip, Slop, Slap!

The sun's rays can be both beneficial and dangerous to your body. The sun's ultraviolet (UV) radiation is your best natural source of vitamin D. Vitamin D is important for healthy bones, muscles and teeth. However, the sun's UV radiation can also cause sunburn, damage to your eyes and skin cancer.

Whenever you are heading outside, it is important to be sun-smart. Some things that you can do to make sure you are protected from the sun's rays include:

- wearing sun protective clothing
- putting on some sunscreen
- wearing a wide-brimmed hat
- finding shade
- wearing sunglasses.

Once you are protected, you can enjoy lots of fun outdoor activities including sport, going to the beach, playing on a playground or even just walking outside to enjoy the outdoors.



## Slip, Slop, Slap!

1. What is the main idea of this text?
2. What are three details that support the main idea?
3. Carefully read the text.  
Underline any words which are repeated, or seem important. Write them down.
4. Another good title for this text could be
  - a) The Weather.
  - b) The Sun and our Health.
  - c) How the Sun is Good for your Health.
  - d) Hot, Hot, Hot

### CRAZY CREATIVE CHALLENGE

Create a poster encouraging your classmates to be sun-smart.

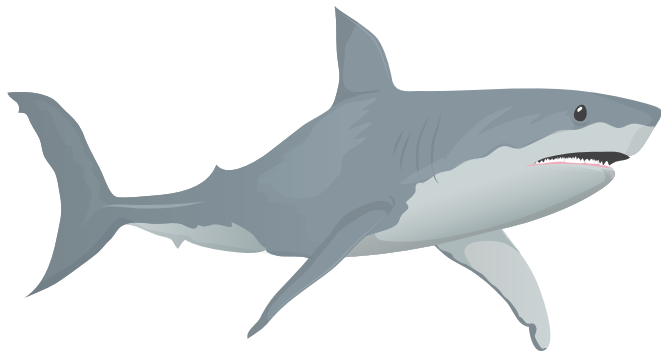
## Sharks – The Leaders of the Ocean

There are around 400 different types of sharks in the world. Sharks are the top predators of the ocean's natural food chain.

Sharks have incredibly sharp teeth and they never run out of them. If a shark loses a tooth, another moves forward from within the shark's jaw (where it neatly keeps a supply of replacement teeth). This way, it is almost impossible for a shark to end up without a full set of teeth. A shark may grow and use over 20 000 teeth in its lifetime.

Sharks have super senses. Two-thirds of a shark's brain is dedicated to its most powerful sense – smell. They have a mirror-like layer on their eyes, allowing them to see better in the water. Sharks are also able to feel vibrations in the water, using a line of canals that go from its head to its tail. These canals are filled with water and contain sensory cells with hairs growing out of them.

On average, a shark's lifespan is 20-30 years in the wild.



## Sharks – The Leaders of the Ocean

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Underline any words which are repeated, or seem important. Write them down.
4. Another good title for this text could be
  - a) Small Sharks.
  - b) I Love Sharks.
  - c) Facts about Sharks.
  - d) My Pet Shark.

### CRAZY CREATIVE CHALLENGE

Draw and label a picture of a shark in its habitat.

## Brilliant Bike Riding

Bike riding is a great activity to do with your friends and family to keep fit and have fun. However, it is important that you stay safe during your bike ride.

Before you ride your bike, you should check a few things. Firstly, make sure your brakes are working and the blocks are not worn down. Secondly, check that your bike chain is oiled and not too loose. Thirdly, make sure that both the front and back tyres have plenty of air in them. Next, check the height of your seat. Your toes should be able to reach the ground. Finally, always wear a correctly-fitted helmet, bright clothing and check that your shoe laces are tied up.

During your bike ride, it is important to ride responsibly, even with your friends. If you are under the age of twelve, you should have an adult supervising you. It is a good idea to plan your bike ride to avoid heavy traffic areas and, where possible, use bike tracks. Remember to be safe and have fun!



## Brilliant Bike Riding

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Underline any words which are repeated, or seem important. Write them down.
4. Another good title for this text could be.
  - a) Bike Riding Safety.
  - b) I Like Bike Riding.
  - c) Boring Bike Riding.
  - d) Leslie's Bike Riding Fun.

### CRAZY CREATIVE CHALLENGE

Write about a time you had fun bike riding with your family or friends.

If you haven't been riding before, then make up a story about a bike ride.

## The Great Wise Owl

Owls are known as the bird of prey. They are nocturnal, which means they sleep during the day and hunt for their prey at night.

Owls have forward-facing eyes and a hooded beak. As they do not have teeth, they use their sharp beak to help them tear apart their food. They also have powerful claws which help them to catch their prey. The colour of an owl's feathers can be brown, grey, white and black. The mix of colours provides a nice camouflage for the owl in their environment.

There are more than 200 species of owls that live in deserts, mountain areas, open grasslands and forests. Owls are carnivores, which means they eat meat. They hunt insects, small mammals and other small birds during the night.

Owls most commonly lay between three and four eggs. They are white and round. The eggs do not hatch at the same time. The life span of an owl is approximately twenty years.



## The Great Wise Owl

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4. Another good title for this text could be.
  - a) My Pet Owl.
  - b) All about the Owl.
  - c) Oliver the Owl.
  - d) The Story of the Very Wise Owl.

### CRAZY CREATIVE CHALLENGE

Using the information in this text, create a story map for a narrative about a wise old owl and a little girl.

## Scrumptious Cupcakes!

A cupcake is a small cake, designed to serve one person. They are often baked in thin paper cups or aluminium cups. Cupcakes were first created in America and date back to the 1790s. The first recipe stated that it was to be 'a cake to be baked in small cups'.

In the beginning, cupcakes were sometimes called 'number cakes'. This is because it was easy to remember the measurements of the ingredients it took to create them: one cup of butter, two cups of sugar, three cups of flour, four eggs, one cup of milk and one spoonful of soda.

Cupcakes are very popular today as they are easy to bake, convenient and you can decorate them to suit any occasion. There are even cupcake bakeries, dedicated to baking and selling cupcakes. Cupcakes are used for birthday parties, morning teas or any special occasion – even weddings!



## Scrumptious Cupcakes!

1. What is the main idea of this text?
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Underline any words which are repeated, or seem important. Write them down.
4. Another good title for this text could be.
  - a) All about Cupcakes.
  - b) I Love Chocolate Cupcakes.
  - c) Recipes for Cupcakes.
  - d) The Mystery of the Stolen Cupcake.

### CRAZY CREATIVE CHALLENGE

Design your very own cupcake.

How would you decorate your cupcake? Draw a picture.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Slip, Slop, Slap!

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- d) The Mystery of the Stolen Cupcake.

## Slip, Slop, Slap!

1. The main idea of this text is that the sun can be both beneficial and dangerous.
2. Three details may include:
  - The sun's rays give us Vitamin D.
  - The sun's rays can be damaging to us.
  - It is important to be sun-smart.
3. Important words include: sun, Vitamin D, dangerous, sun-smart, sunscreen, hat, shade, sunglasses.
4. Another good title for this text could be
  - b) The Sun and our Health.

## Sharks – The Leaders of the Ocean

1. The main idea of this text is sharks; and how they are skilful predators.
2. Three details may include:
  - Sharks have sharp teeth and never run out of them.
  - Two-thirds of a shark's brain is dedicated to smell.
  - Sharks are able to feel vibrations in the water.
3. Important words include: sharks, top predators, sharp teeth, super senses, smell, eyes, vibrations.
4. Another good title for this text could be
  - c) Facts about Sharks.

## Brilliant Bike Riding

1. The main idea of this text is that bike riding is a fun activity to do, but you must be safe.
2. Three details may include:
  - Bike riding is lots of fun and helps you keep fit.
  - There are several things you need to check before you ride your bike.
  - During your bike, ride it is important to remain safe and responsible.
3. Important words include: bike, check, brakes, chain, tyres, helmet, bright clothes, responsible, plan, stay safe.
4. Another good title for this text could be
  - a) Bike Riding Safety.

## The Great Wise Owl

1. The main idea of this text is owls; what they look like, where they live, what they eat and how they reproduce.
2. Three details may include:
  - the body features of an owl
  - the habitat of owls.
  - the reproduction of owls.
3. Important words include: owls, nocturnal, sharp beak, powerful claws, feathers, camouflage, different habitats, carnivore, lay eggs.
4. Another good title for this text could be
  - b) All about the Owl.

## Scrumptious Cupcakes!

1. The main idea of this text is the history of cupcakes.
2. Three details may include:
  - Cupcakes were first created in America in the 1790s.
  - Cupcakes used to be called 'number cakes'.
  - Cupcakes are very popular today.
3. Important words include: cupcakes, serve one person, created in America, number cakes, easy, bakeries.
4. Another good title of this text could be
  - a) All about Cupcakes.