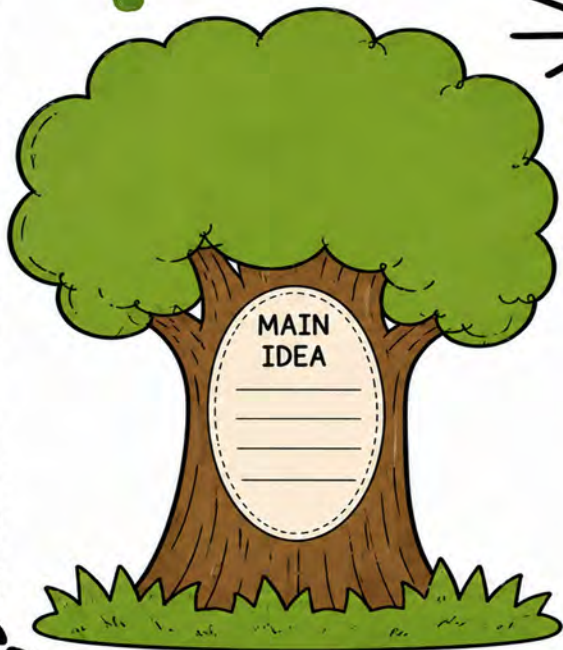


MAIN IDEA = TREE =

LESSON PLAN & CRAFT TEMPLATE



WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- ✓ Teacher Directions
- ✓ Lesson Plan
- ✓ Main Idea Tree Craft Templates
(Top of Tree, Trunk, Grass)
- ✓ Leaf Templates
(Supporting Details)
- ✓ Student Example



Help students find the main idea
and the details that support it!

Teacher Directions

Main Idea Tree

Objective:

Students will identify the main idea of a text and list supporting details. Students will build a main idea tree to show how the details support the main idea.

Materials:

- Main Idea Tree template (top, trunk, grass)
- Leaf templates (supporting details)
- Scissors
- Glue
- Crayons, markers, or colored pencils
- Large piece of construction paper

Before Reading:

- Introduce the concept of main idea and supporting details.
- Explain that the main idea tells what the text is mostly about.
- Share that supporting details are small pieces of information that give more information about the main idea.
- Preview the text students will read and discuss what it might be about.



During Reading:

Pause throughout the reading to discuss:

- What is this part mostly about?
- What details support that idea?
- What is important to remember?

Encourage students to think about the main idea and the details as they read.



Discussion Questions:

- What is the main idea of the text?
- What supporting details helped you find the main idea?
- How do the details support the main idea?
- Can you think of another detail that could support this idea?



After Reading:

- 1 Write the main idea in the center of the tree trunk.
- 2 Write each supporting detail on a leaf.
- 3 Color and cut out all the pieces.
- 4 Glue the tree top to the trunk.
- 4 Glue the leaves to the tree top.
- 5 Add the grass to the bottom of the trunk.

Students may work independently, with a partner, or in small groups.



Extension Ideas:



Write a sentence about the main idea under the tree.



Create a poster showing the difference between main idea and supporting details.



List three things you learned from the text.



Teacher Tip:

Model how to find the main idea before students begin. Remind students that the main idea is what the text is mostly about, while the details give more information. This is a great activity to use with any reading passage or story!



BE
KIND

The Giving Tree

DETAIL #1

The boy played in
the tree's branches.

DETAIL #2

The tree gave the
boy apples to
enjoy.

DETAIL #3

The tree gave her
branches and trunk
to help the boy.

DETAIL #4

The tree gave
the old man a
place to rest.

MAIN IDEA

The Giving Tree
shows how giving
and caring for
someone can
make them
happy.

OUR CLASS
RULES

1. BE KIND
2. LISTEN
3. WORK HARD
4. BE RESPECTFUL
5. HAVE FUN!



Be a
Kind

