Objective

By the end of this lesson, you will be able to use key details to determine the main idea in a piece of writing.

Materials and Prep

• Pencil and paper

Activities

- 1. Read a short passage together and identify key details.
- 2. Discuss the main idea of the passage based on the key details identified.
- 3. Practice finding key details and determining the main idea in a different passage independently.
- 4. Write a short paragraph summarizing the main idea of a passage of your choice.

Talking Points

- Key details are specific pieces of information that support the main idea of a passage. They help us understand what the passage is mainly about.
- When looking for key details, pay attention to facts, examples, and important information mentioned in the passage.
- The main idea is the most important point or message that the writer wants to convey. It is like the central idea or theme of the passage.
- To determine the main idea, think about what all the key details in the passage have in common. What is the overall point the writer is trying to make?
- Remember, the main idea may not always be explicitly stated in the passage. Sometimes, you have to infer or draw conclusions based on the key details.
- Practice makes perfect! The more you practice identifying key details and determining the main idea, the better you will become at understanding and summarizing different pieces of writing.