

Feb.

Reading @ Home

Hello Bear Creek Families!
Spring is just around the corner which means warmer weather is finally on its way!

This month we will focus on summarizing, which is telling the most important parts of a text in your own words. According to Reading Rockets summarizing shows students how to discern the essential ideas in a text, how to ignore irrelevant information, and how to integrate the central ideas in a meaningful way. Summarizing also improves student's memories and act as a check for comprehension. I have included a description of what is required from each grade level for summarizing a literary text and informational text. I have also included an example for both literary and informational that all grade levels can use to help with summarizing. As always if you have any questions or need support please feel free to reach out. Happy reading!



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Reading Coach

LITERARY TEXT

- Summarizing a literary text for all grade levels includes the most important parts of a story.
- The 'somebody, wanted, but, so' chart is extremely helpful when determining the most important parts (see below).
- This chart helps students identify the main character, what they wanted, the problem, how they tried to solve it, and the actual solution.
- This is a great activity to start as it will support students in the upper grades when they have to identify the theme as well.

INFORMATIONAL TEXT

- Summarizing an informational text for all grade levels includes finding the most important details.
- Identifying the central idea (what the text is mostly about) first helps the students find relevant details.
- If the details do not support the central idea, they are not relevant.
- Once you have the topic, and relevant details this will help the student create a summary.
- The nonfiction summary activity to the right helps students identify the topic and 3 relevant details to write a summary.

Grade Level	Literary Text	Informational
Fifth Grade	Summarize a text including the plot and theme.	Summarize a text including the central idea and relevant details.
Fourth Grade	Summarize a text including plot and theme.	Summarize a text including the central idea and relevant details.
Third Grade	Summarize a text including the plot and theme.	Summarize a text using the central idea and relevant details.
Second Grade	Retell a text using the main story elements in a logical sequence.	Retell a text using the central idea and relevant details.
First Grade	Retell a text in oral or written form to using the main story elements at the beginning, middle, and end.	Retell a text in oral or written form using the topic and important details.
Kindergarten	Retell a text orally using the main character(s), setting, and important events for a story.	Retell a text orally using topic and details.

Literary

SUMMARIZE

- Retell the basic story elements in your own words.
- Don't include every event in the story.

Somebody:	Who was the main character?
Wanted:	What did the character want?
But:	What was the problem?
So:	How did a character try to solve the problem?
Then:	What was the solution to the problem?

Informational

NONFICTION SUMMARY

Topic: Sea Creature Survival Skills

SUMMARY:

Sea creatures have "weird" ways that help them live in the ocean.