

Name _____

Main Idea

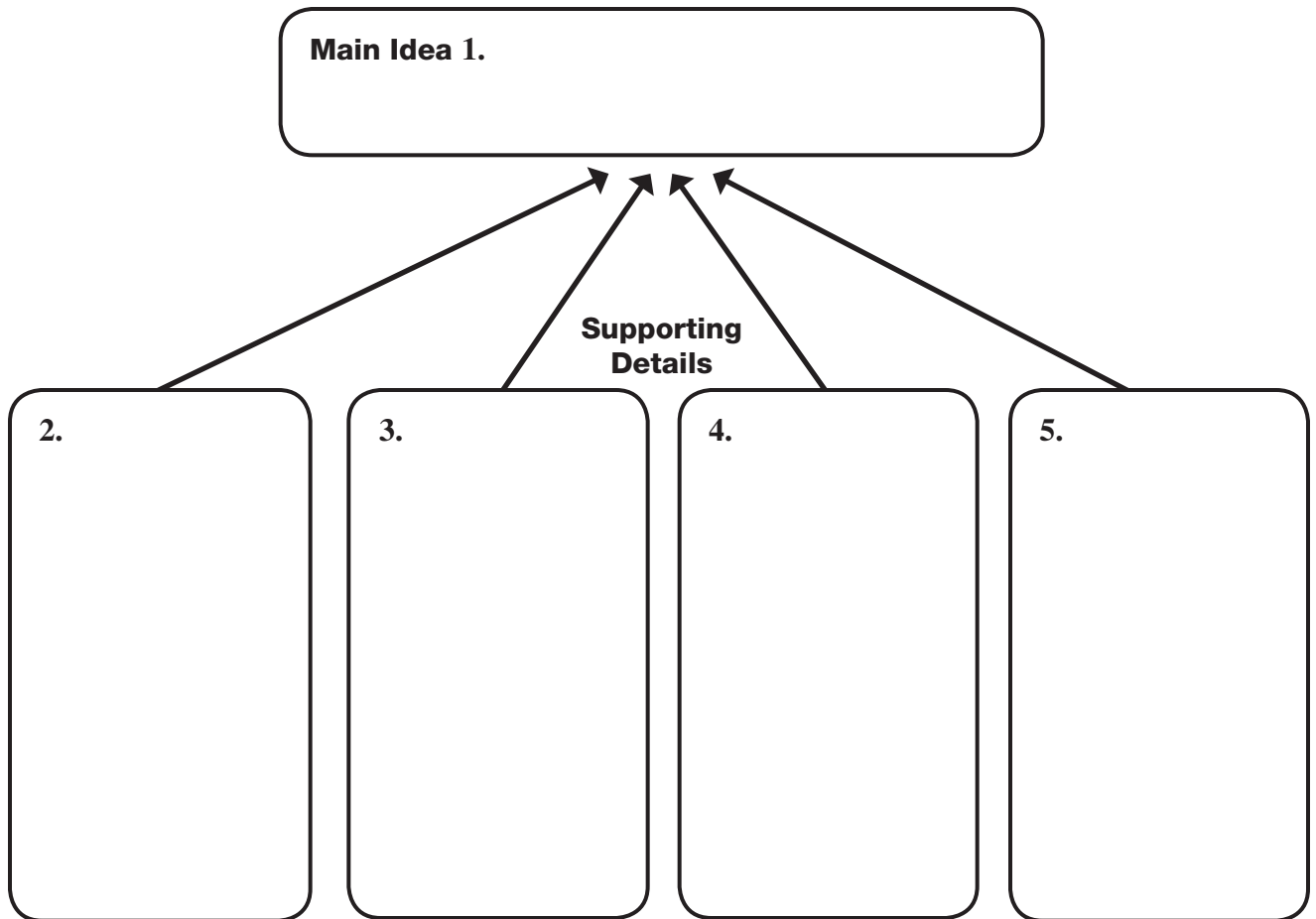
- The **main idea** is the most important idea about the topic.
- **Details** are small pieces of information that tell more about the main idea.

Directions Read the following passage. Then complete the diagram below.

Who earned the title *Mother of the Blues*? That would be Ma Rainey (1886–1939), the first great African American blues singer. Her career began when she was fourteen years old in a local talent show in Georgia. Just four years later, she married “Pa” Rainey, and they formed a song-and-dance act that included

blues songs. They traveled and performed throughout the South.

In 1923, she made her first recording. She recorded about 100 songs. She performed with many notable jazz musicians during her career, which lasted until the 1930s. Her singing influenced many younger blues singers.



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Home Activity Your child read a short passage and used a graphic organizer to identify the main idea and supporting details. Work with your child to identify the main idea and supporting details of individual paragraphs in a magazine article about music.