

Name _____

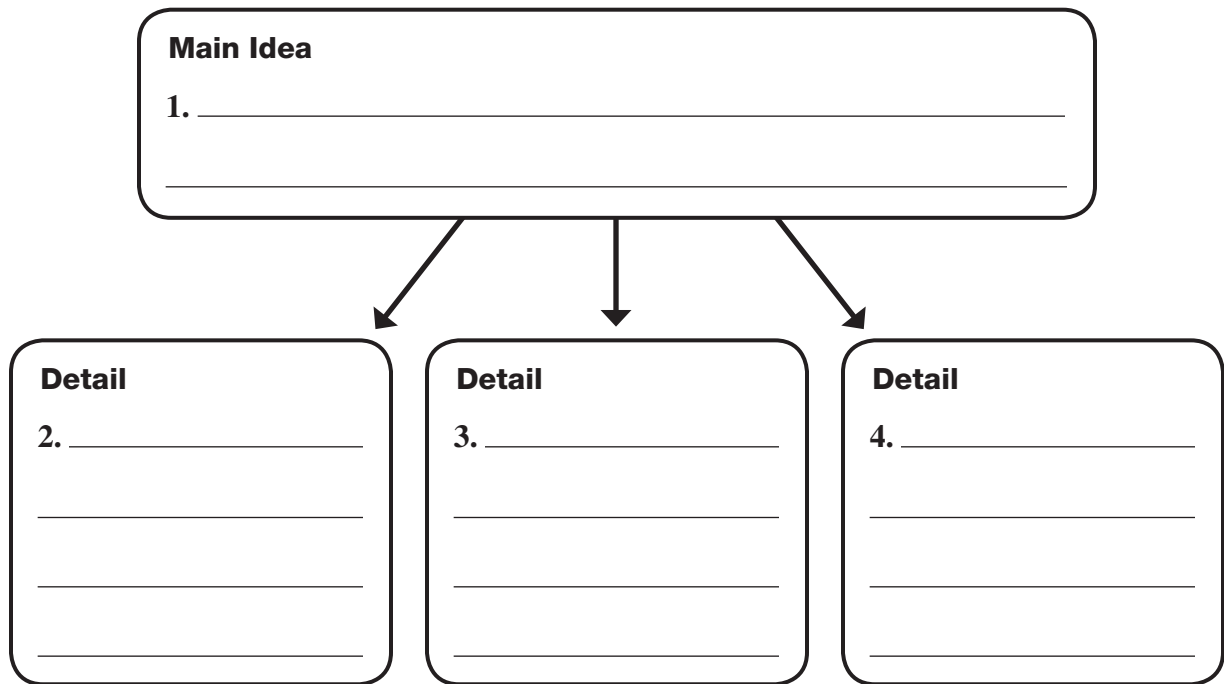
Main Idea

- The **main idea** is the most important idea about a paragraph, passage, or article.
- **Details** are small pieces of information that tell more about the main idea.

Directions Read the following passage and complete the diagram. State the main idea of the passage and three supporting details.

Artist Wesley Dennis (1903–1966) was an expert at painting horses. He had the ability to capture each horse’s personality in his paintings. In 1945, writer Marguerite Henry asked him to illustrate her first book, *Justin Morgan Had a Horse*. He illustrated fifteen of Henry’s horse

books, including *King of the Wind* and *Misty of Chincoteague*. All three of these books were very popular with children and won awards for children’s literature. Dennis is also known for his paintings in Anna Sewell’s powerful story *Black Beauty*.



5. Write a one-sentence summary of this passage.



Home Activity Your child identified the main idea and supporting details of a brief passage. Work with your child to identify the main idea and supporting details for individual paragraphs in a magazine or newspaper article. Challenge your child to write a summary of it.