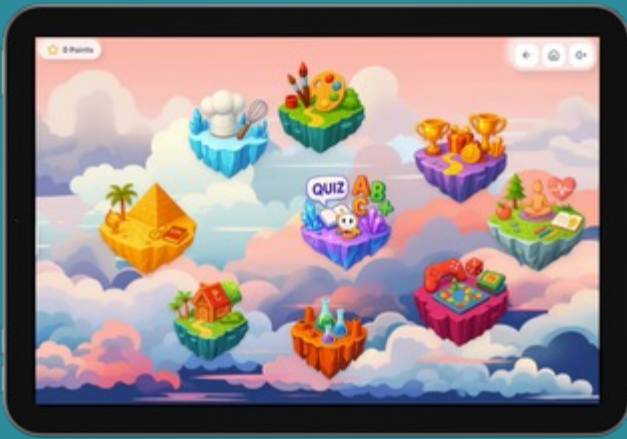


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Comprehension Strategy Summarising Year 4

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Summarising Toolkit

Find the important ideas and say them in your own words.



1. Read

Read the whole text carefully.



2. Find

Find the main idea and key details.



3. Keep

Keep information that explains the main idea.



4. Cut

Cut repeated, minor or unrelated details.



5. Combine

Combine ideas into a short, clear summary.

A strong summary is...

★ short

★ accurate

★ in your own words

★ focused on the main idea.

Summary Safari

Move along the trail. When you land on a space, answer the prompt or take a challenge card.

START

Main Idea

Key Detail

Keep or Cut?

5Ws + H

Use Own Words

Challenge Card

Shorten It

Fiction

Non-Fiction

Partner Check

FINISH

A strong summary is short, accurate and in your own words.

Summary Safari

Challenge Cards A



Cut out the cards. Read the text, then complete the challenge.

Card 1 - River Rescue

A group of students cleaned rubbish from a creek after heavy rain. They sorted bottles, wrappers and cans, then made posters to remind visitors to care for the waterway.



Write a one-sentence summary.

Card 2 - Solar Oven

Maya lined a pizza box with foil and black paper. The sun warmed the box, and her snack slowly melted without using electricity.



Find the main idea.

Card 3 - Lost Lunchbox

Arlo searched the library, playground and art room for his lunchbox. He found it beside the classroom sink after remembering where he washed his hands.



Keep two key details.

Card 4 - Clever Octopus

An octopus can squeeze through tiny spaces, change colour and use its arms to explore. These skills help it hide, hunt and stay safe.



Cut one minor detail.

Card 5 - School Garden

The class planted herbs, watered seedlings and measured growth each week. By spring, they harvested basil and mint for the school kitchen.



Use the 5Ws and H.

Card 6 - Storm Warning

Weather scientists tracked dark clouds, strong wind and falling air pressure. Their warning helped families prepare before the storm arrived.



Write the best summary.

A summary keeps the important ideas.

Summary Safari

Challenge Cards B



Cut out the cards. Read the text, then complete the challenge.

Card 7 - The Hidden Map

Lila found an old map inside a library book. She followed the clues across the school and discovered a time capsule under the fig tree.



Summarise the story.

Card 8 - Mountain Goats

Mountain goats have strong hooves and thick coats. These features help them climb steep rocks and survive cold alpine weather.



Find the main idea.

Card 9 - Busy Bees

Bees collect nectar, spread pollen and help many plants grow. Their work supports gardens, farms and natural habitats.



Choose three key details.

Card 10 - The Broken Robot

Eli's robot stopped during the science fair. He checked the wires, replaced a battery and smiled when it rolled forward again.



Use your own words.

Card 11 - Recycling Trucks

Recycling trucks collect paper, glass and plastic from homes. At the centre, machines sort the materials so they can be made into new products.



Write a short summary.

Card 12 - Campfire Tale

Mia heard a strange rustle near the tents. It was only a possum searching for crumbs, so the campers packed away their food.



Keep the key events.



A summary is shorter than the original text.



Main Idea Match-Up Cards A



Cut out the cards. Match each text card with its main idea and one key detail.

Text Card 1

The council opened a new bike path beside the river. Families can ride safely away from traffic, and signs show distances to nearby parks.



Main Idea 1

The new bike path helps people ride safely near the river.



Key Detail 1

Signs show distances to parks.



Text Card 2

Sea turtles return to beaches to lay eggs. Baby turtles crawl towards the ocean, but bright lights can lead them the wrong way.



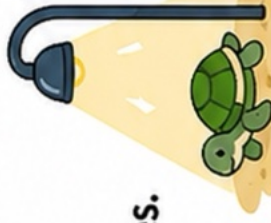
Main Idea 2

Sea turtles need safe beaches and dark skies for nesting.



Key Detail 2

Bright lights can confuse baby turtles.



Text Card 3

The school choir practised before assembly. Students learned harmonies, listened carefully and performed confidently for families.



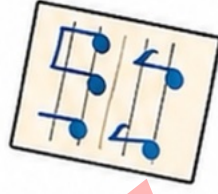
Main Idea 3

Practice helped the choir perform well.



Key Detail 3

Students learned harmonies.





Main Idea Match-Up Cards B



Cut out the cards. Match each text card with its main idea and one key detail.



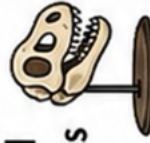
Text Card 4

Volunteers planted native trees beside the oval. The trees will give shade, create homes for birds and reduce dust on windy days.



Text Card 5

The museum added a hands-on dinosaur exhibit. Visitors can compare fossils, touch model bones and learn how scientists study the past.



Text Card 6

After lunch, the class checked the compost bin. Fruit scraps had softened, worms moved through the soil and the mixture smelled earthy.



Main Idea 4

Planting native trees improves the school grounds.



Main Idea 5

The exhibit helps visitors learn about dinosaurs.



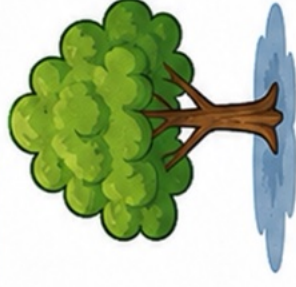
Main Idea 6

Compost changes food scraps into healthy soil.



Key Detail 4

The trees will give shade.



Key Detail 5

Visitors can compare fossils.



Key Detail 6

Worms moved through the soil.



Spin, Roll and Respond

Use a spinner or roll a dice.
Read a text, then respond to the prompt.



Spinner Prompts

Spin the wheel.
Read the text.
Respond to the prompt.

Dice Prompts



1 Say the main idea.



2 Name two key details.



3 Remove one unimportant detail.



4 Summarise in one sentence.



5 Retell the text in your own words.



6 Explain why your summary is accurate.



Partner Check

- ✓ Is it short?
- ✓ Is it accurate?
- ✓ Is it in your own words?



A summary should not copy the whole text.

Name: _____

Date: _____



Worksheet 1: What Is Summarising?



Summarising means telling the most important ideas in fewer words.
A good summary is short, accurate and written in your own words.

Part A: Keep or Cut

Read each detail. Tick **Keep** if it belongs in a summary.
Tick **Cut** if it is extra information.

	Keep	Cut
1. The text is mainly about how plants grow from seeds.	☐	☐
2. The seed packet was bright yellow.	☐	☐
3. Seeds need water, warmth and light to grow.	☐	☐
4. The gardener wore red boots.	☐	☐

Part B: Choose the Best Summary

Text: At the beach clean-up, students collected plastic bottles, fishing line and food wrappers. They sorted the rubbish and made signs asking visitors to protect the shore.

- A. Students went to the beach and saw many signs.
- B. Students cleaned rubbish from the beach and encouraged others to protect it.
- C. Students found food wrappers, bottles and fishing line.

Best summary: ☐



Part C: Fix the Summary

Too long: The students collected plastic bottles, fishing line, food wrappers, shells and sand, then talked to everyone at the beach about signs.

Write a shorter summary in your own words.



Name: ANSWERS

Date: _____



Worksheet 1: What Is Summarising?



Summarising means telling the most important ideas in fewer words.
A good summary is short, accurate and written in your own words.

Part A: Keep or Cut

Read each detail. Tick **Keep** if it belongs in a summary.
Tick **Cut** if it is extra information.

	Keep	Cut
1. The text is mainly about how plants grow from seeds.	☒	☐
2. The seed packet was bright yellow.	☐	☒
3. Seeds need water, warmth and light to grow.	☒	☐
4. The gardener wore red boots.	☐	☒

Part B: Choose the Best Summary

Text: At the beach clean-up, students collected plastic bottles, fishing line and food wrappers. They sorted the rubbish and made signs asking visitors to protect the shore.

- A. Students went to the beach and saw many signs.
- B. Students cleaned rubbish from the beach and encouraged others to protect it.
- C. Students found food wrappers, bottles and fishing line.

Best summary: **B**



Part C: Fix the Summary

Too long: The students collected plastic bottles, fishing line, food wrappers, shells and sand, then talked to everyone at the beach about signs.



Write a shorter summary in your own words.

Students cleaned rubbish from the beach and encouraged visitors to protect it.

Name: _____

Date: _____



Worksheet 2: Main Idea and Key Details



The main idea tells what a paragraph is mostly about.
Key details explain or support the main idea.

Read each paragraph. Write the main idea and two key details.

Paragraph 1

The town library started a weekend reading club. Students chose novels, shared favourite chapters and recommended books to friends. The club helped many students discover new authors.

Main idea: _____

Key detail 1: _____

Key detail 2: _____

Paragraph 2

Electric buses are beginning to replace older diesel buses in some cities. They are quieter, create less air pollution and can be charged overnight at the depot.

Main idea: _____

Key detail 1: _____

Key detail 2: _____

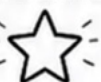
Paragraph 3

The school canteen reduced waste by using reusable containers. Students returned containers after lunch, and the canteen washed them for the next day.

Main idea: _____

Key detail 1: _____

Key detail 2: _____



Challenge: Circle one detail that would be too minor for a summary.

Name: ANSWERS

Date: _____



Worksheet 2: Main Idea and Key Details



The main idea tells what a paragraph is mostly about.
Key details explain or support the main idea.

Read each paragraph. Write the main idea and two key details.

Paragraph 1

The town library started a weekend reading club. Students chose novels, shared favourite chapters and recommended books to friends. The club helped many students discover new authors.

Main idea: The library reading club helped students enjoy and share books.

Key detail 1: Students chose novels and shared favourite chapters.

Key detail 2: Students recommended books to friends.

Paragraph 2

Electric buses are beginning to replace older diesel buses in some cities. They are quieter, create less air pollution and can be charged overnight at the depot.

Main idea: Electric buses are a cleaner and quieter transport option.

Key detail 1: They create less air pollution.

Key detail 2: They can be charged overnight.

Paragraph 3

The school canteen reduced waste by using reusable containers. Students returned containers after lunch, and the canteen washed them for the next day.

Main idea: Reusable containers helped the canteen reduce waste.

Key detail 1: Students returned containers after lunch.

Key detail 2: The canteen washed them for the next day.



Challenge: Circle one detail that would be too minor for a summary.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Worksheet 3: Supporting Details Sort

A supporting detail helps explain the main idea.
Extra details may be interesting, but they do not belong in a summary.

Main idea: Local wetlands are important places for wildlife.

Part A: Sort the Details

Write **S** for supporting detail or **E** for extra detail.

1.	Wetlands provide food and shelter for birds, frogs and insects.	_____
2.	The walking track has three wooden seats.	_____
3.	Wetland plants help filter water before it reaches the river.	_____
4.	Some visitors wear bright raincoats.	_____
5.	Many animals use wetlands as safe breeding places.	_____
6.	The sign near the gate is painted blue.	_____

Part B: Build a Summary

Use the main idea and three supporting details to write a short summary.

Part C: Explain Your Thinking

Choose one extra detail. Why should it be cut from the summary?





Name: ANSWERS

Date: _____



Worksheet 3: Supporting Details Sort

A supporting detail helps explain the main idea.
Extra details may be interesting, but they do not belong in a summary.

Main idea: Local wetlands are important places for wildlife.

Part A: Sort the Details

Write **S** for supporting detail or **E** for extra detail.

1.	Wetlands provide food and shelter for birds, frogs and insects.	<u>S</u>
2.	The walking track has three wooden seats.	<u>E</u>
3.	Wetland plants help filter water before it reaches the river.	<u>S</u>
4.	Some visitors wear bright raincoats.	<u>E</u>
5.	Many animals use wetlands as safe breeding places.	<u>S</u>
6.	The sign near the gate is painted blue.	<u>E</u>

Part B: Build a Summary

Use the main idea and three supporting details to write a short summary.

Local wetlands are important because they provide food, shelter and safe breeding places for wildlife, and their plants help filter water.

Part C: Explain Your Thinking

Choose one extra detail. Why should it be cut from the summary?

Example: The blue sign should be cut because it does not explain why wetlands are important for wildlife.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Worksheet 4: 5Ws and H Summary Planner



Use Who, What, When, Where, Why and How to find the important parts of a text.

Read the story.

The Surprise Assembly

On Friday morning, the Year 4 class noticed the hall doors were closed. After recess, their teacher led them inside. The principal announced that the class had won a community award for organising a food drive. Families, teachers and students clapped while the class accepted a certificate. Later, the students explained how they had collected cans, sorted donations and delivered boxes to the local pantry.

Fill in the planner.

Who?	_____
What happened?	_____
When?	_____
Where?	_____
Why?	_____
How?	_____

Now write a two-sentence summary.

Check your summary:

☐

It includes the main event.

☐

It leaves out tiny details.

☐

It uses my own words.

Name: **ANSWERS**

Date: _____



Worksheet 4: 5Ws and H Summary Planner



Use Who, What, When, Where, Why and How to find the important parts of a text.

Read the story.

The Surprise Assembly

On Friday morning, the Year 4 class noticed the hall doors were closed. After recess, their teacher led them inside. The principal announced that the class had won a community award for organising a food drive. Families, teachers and students clapped while the class accepted a certificate. Later, the students explained how they had collected cans, sorted donations and delivered boxes to the local pantry.

Fill in the planner.

Who?	Year 4 class
What happened?	They won a community award for a food drive.
When?	Friday morning, after recess
Where?	In the school hall
Why?	They organised a food drive to help the local pantry.
How?	They collected cans, sorted donations and delivered boxes.

Now write a two-sentence summary.

The Year 4 class won a community award at assembly for organising a food drive.

They collected, sorted and delivered donations to help the local pantry.

Check your summary:

☐

It includes the main event.

☐

It leaves out tiny details.

☐

It uses my own words.

Name: _____

Date: _____



Worksheet 5: Combining Paragraphs



Sometimes a summary needs to combine ideas from more than one paragraph.

Read the two paragraphs.

Paragraph 1

Many towns are adding community gardens. Local people grow vegetables, herbs and flowers in shared garden beds. Gardeners learn from one another and take turns watering the plants.



Paragraph 2

Community gardens can also help the environment. They create green spaces, reduce food transport and give insects places to shelter. Some gardens share extra produce with neighbours.



Step 1: Write the main idea of each paragraph.

Paragraph 1 main idea: _____

Paragraph 2 main idea: _____



Step 2: Choose three key details from both paragraphs.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



Step 3: Combine the ideas into one summary.



Checklist:

☐

I used both paragraphs.

☐

I kept key details.

☐

I wrote in my own words.

Name: **ANSWERS**

Date: _____



Worksheet 5: Combining Paragraphs



Sometimes a summary needs to combine ideas from more than one paragraph.

Read the two paragraphs.

Paragraph 1

Many towns are adding community gardens. Local people grow vegetables, herbs and flowers in shared garden beds. Gardeners learn from one another and take turns watering the plants.



Paragraph 2

Community gardens can also help the environment. They create green spaces, reduce food transport and give insects places to shelter. Some gardens share extra produce with neighbours.



Step 1: Write the main idea of each paragraph.

Paragraph 1 main idea: Community gardens let local people grow food together.

Paragraph 2 main idea: Community gardens help the environment.

Step 2: Choose three key details from both paragraphs.

- People grow vegetables, herbs and flowers.
- Gardeners take turns watering and learning together.
- Gardens create green spaces and shelter for insects.

Step 3: Combine the ideas into one summary.

Community gardens are shared spaces where local people grow food and learn together. They also help the environment by creating green spaces, reducing food transport and supporting insects.

☐ Checklist: ☐ I used both paragraphs. ☐ I kept key details. ☐ I wrote in my own words.

Name: _____

Date: _____



Worksheet 6: Summarising Fiction Texts



A fiction summary tells the main characters, setting, problem, important events and ending.

Read the story.

The Missing Medal

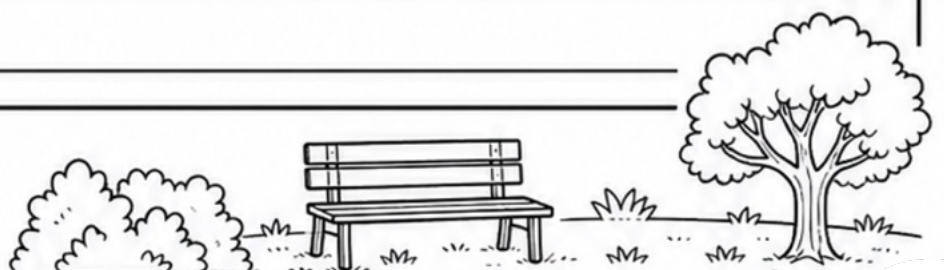
Noah was chosen to carry the relay medal to the sports shed after the carnival. On the way, a gust of wind blew papers across the oval, and Noah stopped to help his friend Mia collect them. When he reached the shed, the medal was gone. Noah retraced his steps and found it shining beside the long-jump pit. He returned it just before the coach locked the cupboard.



Complete the story summary map.

Main character:	_____
Setting:	_____
Problem:	_____
Important event 1:	_____
Important event 2:	_____
Ending:	_____

Write a short fiction summary.



Name: ANSWERS

Date: _____



Worksheet 6: Summarising Fiction Texts



A fiction summary tells the main characters, setting, problem, important events and ending.

Read the story.

The Missing Medal

Noah was chosen to carry the relay medal to the sports shed after the carnival. On the way, a gust of wind blew papers across the oval, and Noah stopped to help his friend Mia collect them. When he reached the shed, the medal was gone. Noah retraced his steps and found it shining beside the long-jump pit. He returned it just before the coach locked the cupboard.



Complete the story summary map.

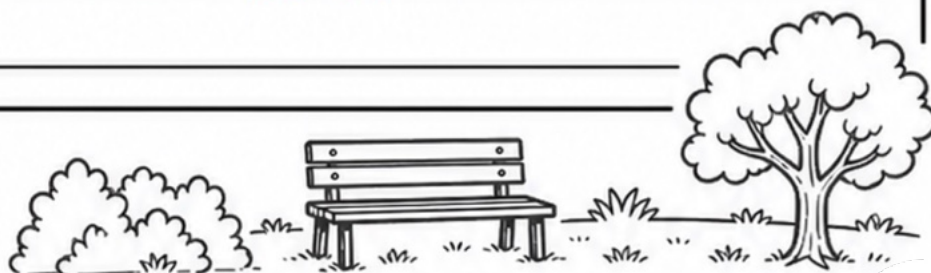
Main character:	<u>Noah</u>
Setting:	<u>The school oval after the sports carnival</u>
Problem:	<u>Noah lost the relay medal on the way to the sports shed.</u>
Important event 1:	<u>Noah stopped to help Mia collect papers.</u>
Important event 2:	<u>Noah retraced his steps and found the medal.</u>
Ending:	<u>He returned the medal before the coach locked the cupboard.</u>

Write a short fiction summary.

Noah lost the relay medal after helping Mia on the oval.

He retraced his steps, found it beside the long-jump pit

and returned it safely.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Worksheet 7: Summarising Non-Fiction Texts

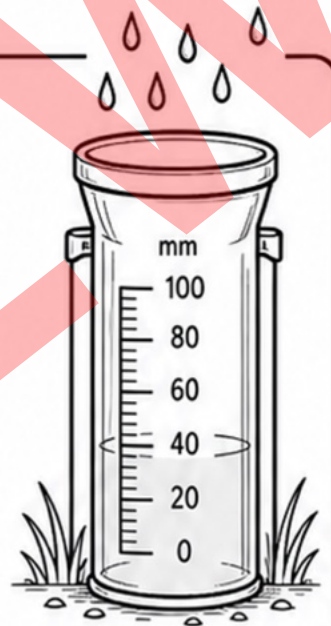


A non-fiction summary includes the topic, main idea and the most important facts.

Read the information text.

How Rain Gauges Help

A rain gauge measures how much rain falls in one place. Farmers, weather reporters and scientists use rain gauge data to understand weather patterns. The information can help farmers plan watering, warn communities about flooding and compare rainfall from one season to another. A simple rain gauge can be made from a clear container with measurement marks.



Complete the non-fiction summary map.

Topic:	_____
Main idea:	_____
Important fact 1:	_____
Important fact 2:	_____
Important fact 3:	_____

Write a short non-fiction summary.

Summary check: ☐ Topic named ☐ Main idea included ☐ Facts are important ☐ Own words used

Name: **ANSWERS**

Date: _____



Worksheet 7: Summarising Non-Fiction Texts

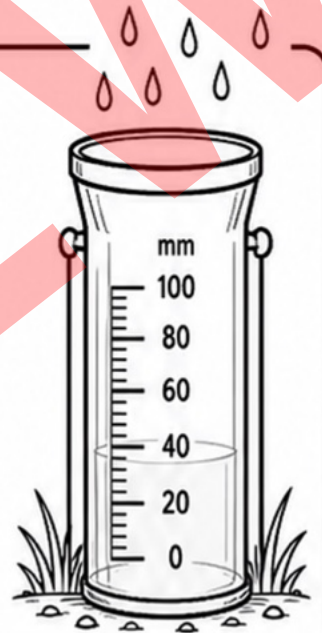


A non-fiction summary includes the topic, main idea and the most important facts.

Read the information text.

How Rain Gauges Help

A rain gauge measures how much rain falls in one place. Farmers, weather reporters and scientists use rain gauge data to understand weather patterns. The information can help farmers plan watering, warn communities about flooding and compare rainfall from one season to another. A simple rain gauge can be made from a clear container with measurement marks.



Complete the non-fiction summary map.

Topic:	rain gauges
Main idea:	Rain gauges measure rainfall and help people understand weather patterns.
Important fact 1:	Farmers use the data to plan watering.
Important fact 2:	Rainfall data can warn communities about flooding.
Important fact 3:	Rainfall can be compared from one season to another.

Write a short non-fiction summary.

Rain gauges measure how much rain falls in one place. Their data helps farmers, scientists and communities plan for watering, flooding and weather changes.

Summary check: ☐ Topic named ☐ Main idea included ☐ Facts are important ☐ Own words used

Name: _____

Date: _____



Worksheet 8: Visual Summary - Fiction



A visual summary shows only the most important parts of a story.

Read the story.

The New Team Captain

Priya felt nervous when her team chose her as captain. During the game, two players argued about who should take a penalty shot. Priya listened to both players, suggested a fair turn system and reminded the team to support one another. The team calmed down, played together and won by one goal.

Draw or write the four most important parts.

Box 1: Beginning

Box 2: Problem

Caption 1: _____

Caption 2: _____

Box 3: Key event

Box 4: Ending

Caption 3: _____

Caption 4: _____

One-sentence summary:





Worksheet 8: Visual Summary - Fiction



A visual summary shows only the most important parts of a story.

Read the story.

The New Team Captain

Priya felt nervous when her team chose her as captain. During the game, two players argued about who should take a penalty shot. Priya listened to both players, suggested a fair turn system and reminded the team to support one another. The team calmed down, played together and won by one goal.

Draw or write the four most important parts.

Box 1: Beginning

Priya becomes captain.

Box 2: Problem

Two players argue.

Caption 1: Priya is nervous about being captain.

Caption 2: Players disagree about a penalty shot.

Box 3: Key event

Priya suggests fair turns.

Box 4: Ending

The team works together
and wins.

Caption 3: Priya listens and helps solve the problem.

Caption 4: The team calms down and wins by one goal.

One-sentence summary:

Priya helps her team solve an argument, work together and win the game.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Worksheet 9: Visual Summary - Non-Fiction



A visual summary can show the most important facts from an information text.

Read the information text.

How Paper Is Recycled

Used paper is collected from homes, schools and offices. At a recycling centre, it is sorted and mixed with water to make pulp. The pulp is cleaned, pressed flat and dried into new paper sheets. Recycling paper saves trees, reduces waste and gives old paper a new purpose.

Draw or write four important facts.

Box 1: Collection

Box 2: Pulp

Caption 1: _____

Caption 2: _____

Box 3: New paper

Box 4: Why it matters

Caption 3: _____

Caption 4: _____

One-sentence summary:





Worksheet 9: Visual Summary - Non-Fiction



A visual summary can show the most important facts from an information text.

Read the information text.

How Paper Is Recycled

Used paper is collected from homes, schools and offices. At a recycling centre, it is sorted and mixed with water to make pulp. The pulp is cleaned, pressed flat and dried into new paper sheets. Recycling paper saves trees, reduces waste and gives old paper a new purpose.

Draw or write four important facts.

Box 1: Collection

Used paper is collected.

Caption 1: Used paper comes from homes, schools and offices.

Box 2: Pulp

Paper is sorted and mixed with water.

Caption 2: The paper becomes pulp.

Box 3: New paper

Pulp is cleaned, pressed and dried.

Caption 3: The pulp becomes new paper sheets.

Box 4: Why it matters

Recycling saves trees and reduces waste.

Caption 4: Recycling gives old paper a new purpose.

One-sentence summary:

Used paper is collected, turned into pulp and made into new paper sheets, which saves trees and reduces waste.



Name: _____

Date: _____



Worksheet 10: Summary Writing Practice



Read the text. Then plan and write a clear summary in your own words.

Text: The Floating Classroom

A group of students visited a science boat on the harbour. They tested water samples, looked for tiny plankton with microscopes and learned how rubbish can affect sea life. The guide explained that clean waterways help fish, birds and people. Before leaving, the students promised to reduce plastic waste at school.



Step 1: Find the main idea.

Step 2: List three key details.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Step 3: Cross out one detail that is too minor for a summary.

The boat had a blue stripe.

Students tested water samples.

Clean waterways help living things.

Step 4: Write your summary.

Summary check: ☐ Short ☐ Accurate ☐ Own words ☐ No minor details



Name: **ANSWERS**

Date: _____



Worksheet 10: Summary Writing Practice



Read the text. Then plan and write a clear summary in your own words.

Text: The Floating Classroom

A group of students visited a science boat on the harbour. They tested water samples, looked for tiny plankton with microscopes and learned how rubbish can affect sea life. The guide explained that clean waterways help fish, birds and people. Before leaving, the students promised to reduce plastic waste at school.



Step 1: Find the main idea.

The students learned how to study and protect harbour water.

Step 2: List three key details.

1. They tested water samples.
2. They viewed plankton with microscopes.
3. They learned rubbish can affect sea life.

Step 3: Cross out one detail that is too minor for a summary.

~~The boat had a blue stripe.~~ Students tested water samples. Clean waterways help living things.

Step 4: Write your summary.

Students visited a science boat to learn about harbour water and sea life.

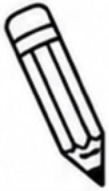
They tested samples, viewed plankton and promised to reduce plastic waste to help keep waterways clean.

Summary check: ☐ Short ☐ Accurate ☐ Own words ☐ No minor details



Name: _____

Date: _____



Assessment: Summarising Checkpoint - Page 1



Read the text carefully. Use the questions to show how well you can summarise.

Text: The Community Tree Day

On Saturday, families met at the park for Community Tree Day. Volunteers dug holes, planted native saplings and spread mulch around each tree. A ranger explained that native trees provide shade, create homes for birds and help keep soil in place during heavy rain. The youngest children watered the new trees, while older students placed labels beside each planting area. By the afternoon, the park had fifty new trees and a team of tired but proud helpers.

Question 1: What is the main idea of the text?

Question 2: Write three key details that support the main idea.

1.

2.

3.

Question 3: Which detail should be left out of a short summary? Circle one.

- A. Volunteers planted native saplings.
- B. The park had fifty new trees.
- C. The helpers were tired by the afternoon.
- D. Native trees provide shade and homes for birds.

Question 4: Why should that detail be left out?

Name: _____

Date: _____



Assessment: Summarising Checkpoint - Page 2

Use your answers from Page 1 to write a clear summary.

Planning box

Main idea: _____

Important detail 1: _____

Important detail 2: _____

Important detail 3: _____

Write your summary in 2-3 sentences.

Check your summary.

- ☐ I included the main idea.
- ☐ I included important details.
- ☐ I left out minor details.
- ☐ I used my own words.
- ☐ My summary is shorter than the original text.

Reflection: What did you do well as a summariser?

**Assessment: Summarising Checkpoint - Page 1**

Read the text carefully. Use the questions to show how well you can summarise.

Text: The Community Tree Day

On Saturday, families met at the park for Community Tree Day. Volunteers dug holes, planted native saplings and spread mulch around each tree.

A ranger explained that native trees provide shade, create homes for birds and help keep soil in place during heavy rain. The youngest children watered the new trees, while older students placed labels beside each planting area. By the afternoon, the park had fifty new trees and a team of tired but proud helpers.

Question 1: What is the main idea of the text?

Community Tree Day helped improve the park by planting native trees.

Question 2: Write three key details that support the main idea.

1. Volunteers dug holes, planted saplings and spread mulch.
2. Native trees provide shade and homes for birds.
3. Native trees help keep soil in place during heavy rain.

Question 3: Which detail should be left out of a short summary? Circle one.

- A. Volunteers planted native saplings.
- B. The park had fifty new trees.
- ☒ C. The helpers were tired by the afternoon.
- D. Native trees provide shade and homes for birds.

Question 4: Why should that detail be left out?

It is a minor detail and does not explain the main idea or why the trees matter.

**Assessment: Summarising Checkpoint - Page 2**

Use your answers from Page 1 to write a clear summary.

Planning box

Main idea: Community Tree Day improved the park by planting native trees.

Important detail 1: Volunteers planted saplings and spread mulch.

Important detail 2: Native trees provide shade and homes for birds.

Important detail 3: Trees help keep soil in place during heavy rain.

Write your summary in 2-3 sentences.

Families and volunteers improved the park by planting fifty native
trees on Community Tree Day. The trees will provide shade,
create homes for birds and help protect the soil during heavy rain.

Check your summary.

- ☒ I included the main idea.
- ☒ I included important details.
- ☒ I left out minor details.
- ☒ I used my own words.
- ☒ My summary is shorter than the original text.

Reflection: What did you do well as a summariser?

I included the main idea, chose important details and
left out minor information.

Comprehension Strategy Summarising Year 4 Rubric

Assessment focus: identifying main ideas, selecting key details and writing a clear summary in own words.

Criteria	BEGINNING	DEVELOPING	ACHIEVING	CONFIDENT	EXCEEDING
1. Main idea	Needs help to identify what the text is mostly about.	Identifies a topic but may miss the main idea.	Identifies a clear main idea.	Identifies a precise main idea using text evidence.	Explains the main idea and why it matters.
2. Key details	Includes few or unrelated details.	Selects some useful details with support.	Selects key details that support the main idea.	Chooses the strongest details and cuts minor information.	Combines details thoughtfully across the text.
3. Summary writing	Retells too much or copies the text.	Writes a basic summary with some copying.	Writes a short, accurate summary in own words.	Writes a clear summary that combines ideas smoothly.	Writes a concise, polished summary with strong control.
4. Clarity and accuracy	Meaning is unclear or inaccurate.	Some ideas are clear but details may be missing.	Ideas are clear and mostly accurate.	Ideas are accurate, organised and easy to follow.	Writing is accurate, purposeful and highly readable.
5. Reflection	Needs prompting to explain choices.	Gives a simple reason for one choice.	Explains how main idea and details were chosen.	Explains how minor details were left out.	Reflects thoughtfully and suggests improvements.

Curriculum: AC9E4LY05

Comprehension Strategy Summarising Year 4



Comprehension Strategy Summarising Year 4 Quiz

