

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Main Idea

The main point or topic of a passage is called the **main idea**. The **main idea** is supported with the rest of the passage, which gives additional details and facts about the **main idea**.

**Read the passage. Then, answer the questions that follow.**

Most of the school day is very boring for me, but the best part of the school day is when I go to science lab. In the science lab, we are able to do science experiments and look at scientific models. Instead of just learning vocabulary words and reading about science in a book, we actually get to *do* science! For example, one day, the teacher was teaching us about solids, liquids, and gases. She started with ice, melted it, and then boiled it so that we could see the steam. On another day, our teacher talked to us about the water cycle. She used a model of a farm to show us what happens when it rains. We got to see how the rain washes the dirt, and fertilizers, into nearby streams and rivers. Next week, we are going to do an experiment with magnets. I really like getting to see science in the lab!

1. Which best states the **main idea** of the paragraph.
  - a. On another day, our teacher talked to us about the water cycle.
  - b. Next week, we are going to do an experiment with magnets.
  - c. The best part of the school day is when I go to science lab.
  
2. Which of the following best supports the **main idea** of the paragraph?
  - a. Most of the school day is very boring for me.
  - b. We got to see how the rain washes the dirt, and fertilizers, into nearby streams and rivers.
  - c. Instead of just learning vocabulary words and reading about science in a book, we actually get to *do* science!
  
3. Which of the following details could be added to the paragraph to support the **main idea**?
  - a. Lunch is also a good time of the day because I get to see my friends.
  - b. I don't really like to write, and that's what we do in our English class.
  - c. When I could see how water makes a solid, liquid, and gas, I enjoyed learning.
  
4. Which of the following details about the science lab provides the *least* support for the **main idea**?
  - a. There are colorful pictures and charts on the wall in the science lab.
  - b. The teacher in the science lab is named Mr. Hayes.
  - c. Sometimes, we even go outside to do experiments with plants or animals.

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## Answers Main Idea

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**Read the passage. Then, answer the questions that follow.**

Most of the school day is very boring for me, but the best part of the school day is when I go to science lab. In the science lab, we are able to do science experiments and look at scientific models. Instead of just learning vocabulary words and reading about science in a book, we actually get to *do* science! For example, one day, the teacher was teaching us about solids, liquids, and gases. She started with ice, melted it, and then boiled it so that we could see the steam. On another day, our teacher talked to us about the water cycle. She used a model of a farm to show us what happens when it rains. We got to see how the rain washes the dirt, and fertilizers, into nearby streams and rivers. Next week, we are going to do an experiment with magnets. I really like getting to see science in the lab!

1. Which best states the **main idea** of the paragraph.
  - a. On another day, our teacher talked to us about the water cycle.
  - b. Next week, we are going to do an experiment with magnets.
  - c. **The best part of the school day is when I go to science lab.**
  
2. Which of the following best supports the **main idea** of the paragraph?
  - a. Most of the school day is very boring for me.
  - b. We got to see how the rain washes the dirt, and fertilizers, into nearby streams and rivers.
  - c. **Instead of just learning vocabulary words and reading about science in a book, we actually get to *do* science!**
  
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