

splash- 5 MinutesCrawl- 10 MinutesDefinitions: The main idea of the paragraph is the most important part. It is the purpose of the paragraph. It can also be thought of as the topic of the paragraph. What is the author focusing on? What does the author want you to take away from reading the paragraph?Note for instructor: Typically the main idea is found as the first or last sentence of a paragraphSupporting details are used to fatten up the main idea. Supporting details usually come in the form of facts, examples, and details that are directly related to the mainidea. Typically, supporting details follow the main idea sentence. BEWARE: not all sentences contain supporting details.\*\*\* Use the following short paragraphs to show how to locate the main idea and supporting details\*\*\*\*\* Students should offer participation\*\*\*Example #1Aiello Grocery Store male employees are required to be clean shaven and have a neat appearance. Employees may have a moustache, but it must not go past the lips. Goatees and beards are not allowed. Male hairstyles must not draw attention inlength, style, or color.Topic: Male EmployeesWhat is the main point of the narrative?Male employees must be clean shaven and neat in appearance.What are supporting details that prove the main idea?No goatee or beard, moustache limitations, hairstyle restrictions.Example #2Aiello Grocery Store employees must not wear a lot of jewelry that could be distracting. No tongue rings, eyebrow rings, or lip rings are allowed. Male employeesmay not wear earrings. All other facial piercings are not allowed.Topic: JewelryWhat is the main point of the narrative?Employees must not wear a lot of jewelry that could be distracting.What are supporting details that prove the main idea?No facial piercings allowed.

# Main Ideas

+ *details*

Within the context of your life.

Clerks may also be required to stock shelves and gather shopping carts from the parking lot. Employees will conduct routine cleaning to make sure the store is tidy. Group Paragraph #2Childcare workers provide a great service to busy, working parents. Childcare is often needed throughout the day. Childcare workers are responsible for the safety ofthe children under their care. Some children will attend daycare for the whole day. This means childcare workers are responsible for cooking or serving meals and snacks. Some children are potty trained, while others have to be in diapers. Childcare workers are also responsible for making sure that infants and toddlers in their care have fresh, unsoiled diapers. Topic:Childcare WorkersMain Idea:Childcare workers provide a valuable service. Supporting Details:Childcare workers are responsible for the safety of the children under their care. Childcare workers are responsible for cooking or serving meals and snacks.Childcare workers are also responsible for making sure that infants and toddlers in their care have fresh, unsoiled diapers. RUN\*\*\*Three narratives to choose from accompanied by questions\*\*\*\*\* Optional Worksheet\*\*\*\*\* Aiello Grocery Store Employee Handbook\*\*\*Paid Time-Of.Birthday Pay.Aiello Foods offers paid time off

*Welcome!*

To: johndoe@parenting.com  
From: ElementarySchool@education.com  
Date: September 1, 2019  
Subject: Student Allergy

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

A student in your child's class has a peanut allergy. If this child smells, touches, or eats a product with peanuts in it, it could result in death. If your child has a breakfast with nuts in it, please wash their hands before bringing them to the classroom. A very severe medical problem can happen from peanut exposure. Please, do not bring products with nuts in them for snacks.

Please, respond to this email to let us know that you received the email.

Thank you,

School Staff

# Main Idea

The main idea of the paragraph is the most important part. It is the purpose of the paragraph. It can also be thought of as the topic of the paragraph. What is the author focusing on? What does the author want you to take away from reading the paragraph?

# Details

Supporting details are used to fatten up the main idea. Supporting details usually come in the form of facts, examples, and details that are directly related to the main idea. Typically, supporting details follow the main idea sentence. BEWARE: not all sentences contain supporting details.



To make bread  
You need the right ingredients



# Activity 1

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Aiello Grocery Store male employees are required to be clean shaven and have a neat appearance. Employees may have a moustache, but it must not go past the lips. Goatees and beards are not allowed. Male hairstyles must not draw attention in length, style, or color.

What is the main point of the narrative?

What are the details?

What is the main point of the narrative?

What are the details?

Aiello Grocery Store employees must not wear a lot of jewelry that could be distracting. No tongue rings, eyebrow rings, or lip rings are allowed. Male employees may not wear earrings. All other facial piercings are not allowed.

The Aiello Grocery Store uniform includes a uniform shirt, hat, and nametag. Black dress pants and shoes are also required but are not provided. Aiello Grocery Store's employees must be in uniform at all times while at work.

What is the main point of the narrative?

What are the details?

## Group Paragraph #1

Clerks are responsible for ringing and bagging groceries for customers. Some customers like plastic bags for their groceries and others like paper bags. Some customers even bring their own bags. Clerks may also be required to stock shelves and gather shopping carts from the parking lot. Many customers do not put their carts in the cart corral, so carts could be spread across the parking lot. Employees will conduct routine cleaning to make sure the store is tidy. Managers will assign cleaning duties based on how busy the store is. Some clerks will work part-time or full-time hours. Grocery clerks are the backbone of the store.

Main Idea:

What are the supporting details?

## Group Paragraph #2

Childcare workers provide a great service to busy, working parents. Childcare is often needed throughout the day. Childcare workers are responsible for the safety of the children under their care. Some children will attend daycare for the whole day. This means childcare workers are responsible for cooking or serving meals and snacks. Some children are potty trained, while others have to be in diapers. Childcare workers are also responsible for making sure that infants and toddlers in their care have fresh, unsoiled diapers.

Main Idea:

What are the supporting details?

# *create your own*

*Be sure to include:*

- 1 Main Idea
- 3 Supporting Details

**Here are a few ideas to get you going.**

**Home**

**Tell us about your kitchen.**

**Work**

**What's your work day like?**

**School**

**What's your favorite class at school?**

***...or write about with anything you think of***



## Solo Effort

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



# Additional

## **Paid Time-Off.**

### *Birthday Pay.*

Aiello Foods offers paid time off for full time employees for their birthday. Aiello Foods appreciates the hard work their employees do on a regular basis. Employees have to have been working for Aiello Foods for 90 days to receive the paid birthday benefit. Employees can take the paid birthday time thirty days before or after the day of their birthday. Employees must take the day off to receive the money. Aiello Foods hopes that the paid time off allows the employee to spend their birthday with family and friends.

Main Idea:

What are the two supporting details

## **Paid Time-Off.**

### *Attendance Policy*

Every Friday the employee work schedule will be posted on the bulletin board by 6pm. You need to know your hours and days. You are expected to be on time. If there are breaks during your shift, you need to come back on time. If you cannot come to work or will be late, you must call as soon as possible. The manager may ask for a doctor's note. It is important to come to work and be on time so that the company can run smoothly and your fellow employees do not have to do more work. Employees who call in sick or show up late regularly may lose their job. If you do not call and miss your shift, you are automatically fired.

Main Idea:

What are the two supporting details?



# Additional

## Main Ideas and Supporting Details

In your own words, describe what a main idea is?

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Why are supporting details important to a paragraph?

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Provide your own example of a main idea using an example from your work, home, or school.

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What is a detail that you could use to support your main idea?

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