

FIND THE MAIN IDEA



The **main idea** is the most important idea of a story or paragraph. The main idea tells what the story or paragraph is mostly about. Read the stories below carefully and circle the correct main idea of each.

Susie threw the Frisbee for Pete. The Frisbee landed in a tall tree. It was stuck in the branches. Pete barked and barked. Then a gust of wind blew the Frisbee loose. Pete finally caught the Frisbee. He stopped barking and started wagging his tail instead.

What is the main idea?

1. Pete barks at squirrels in the tree
2. Pete is excited to play fetch with his toy.

The three little birds patiently waited for their mom to return with lunch. Their stomachs grumbled as they thought about their favorite food: worms! It was a windy day so it took their mom longer to return. They played a game to keep their minds off of lunch. When their mom returned, they quickly ate up the worms.

What is the main idea?

1. The little birds were very hungry.
2. It was a windy day.



Scott was having a very busy day. He needed to write a report, answer the phone and check his email. His boss came by and dropped off some papers. At noon, he quickly ate his lunch. When he returned to his desk he checked his messages and got back to work.

What is the main idea?

1. Scott ate his lunch after work.
2. Scott is having a very busy day at work.