

Name _____

Find the Main Idea

Read each paragraph.

Write the main idea on the line.

Draw a line under the topic sentence.

Be ready to tell why you picked that sentence.



The centipede is a hunter. It poisons its prey with a quick bite. It stalks its prey in dark places beneath stones, logs, and piles of leaves. It eats silverfish, cockroaches, worms, and slugs.

**Main
Idea:** _____

Charlie McCarthy was a wooden dummy. He was owned by the famous ventriloquist Edgar Bergen. Mr. Bergen created Charlie while he was in high school. Charlie traveled around the world with Mr. Bergen. They performed for many people. Charlie was so popular that he got more mail than Mr. Bergen did. Even a puppet can be a famous star.

**Main
Idea:** _____

When water is forced upward through sand by a natural spring or some other source, the grains of sand are pushed apart and the sand swells. When this happens, the sand is no longer firm and cannot support heavy weight. It becomes quicksand. If the water drains or stops running, the quicksand turns back into plain sand. So quicksand is not a special kind of sand, but it is the result of water trying to move through plain old sand.

**Main
Idea:** _____