

# Main Idea, Details & Inference: Knowledge Check

## 1. Main Idea and Supporting Details

**Instructions:** Read the paragraph below about Costa Rican wildlife and answer the questions.

Sloths are famous for being incredibly slow, but this trait is actually a brilliant survival strategy. By moving slowly, sloths use very little energy, which is important because their diet of leaves provides few calories. Their slow movements also make them almost invisible to predators like jaguars and eagles, who hunt by spotting movement. Furthermore, moving slowly allows algae to grow in their fur, giving them a green color that acts as perfect camouflage in the forest canopy.

1. What is the **main idea** of the paragraph?

a) Sloths move slowly to grow algae.

b) Being slow is a useful survival skill for sloths.

c) Jaguars and eagles like to eat sloths.

d) Leaves do not give sloths much energy.

2. Write two **supporting details** from the text that help explain the main idea.

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## 2. Reading Between the Lines



**Remember:** Background Knowledge + Text Evidence = **Inference**

**Instructions:** Read the short scenarios. Make an inference and list the evidence that helped you.

3. Maria looked at her alarm clock, gasped, grabbed her backpack, and ran out the door with her shoes untied. She didn't even grab a piece of toast for breakfast.

**Inference:** What is happening with Maria?

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4. The sky turned dark gray in the middle of the afternoon. The wind began to howl, and people on the street started opening their umbrellas quickly.

**Evidence:** List two clues from the text that tell you what is about to happen.

### 3. Visual Inferences



5. Look at the image. Make an **inference** about what just happened, and state your **visual evidence**.

### 4. Final Challenge

Read the passage below and complete the table with your analysis.

*The school cafeteria was unusually quiet on Tuesday. Students were whispering instead of shouting. Many kids were staring at the closed kitchen doors, holding empty trays. The smell of burnt cheese hung heavy in the air.*

Concept	Your Answer
<b>Main Idea</b> (What is this passage mostly about?)	
<b>Supporting Detail</b> (One fact from the text)	
<b>Inference</b> (What can you guess happened?)	