

Main Idea and Details • Graphic Organizers

- The **topic** is what a piece of writing is about. The **main idea** is the most important idea about the **topic**. **Supporting details** are small pieces of information about the **main idea**.
- A **graphic organizer** can help organize information as you read.

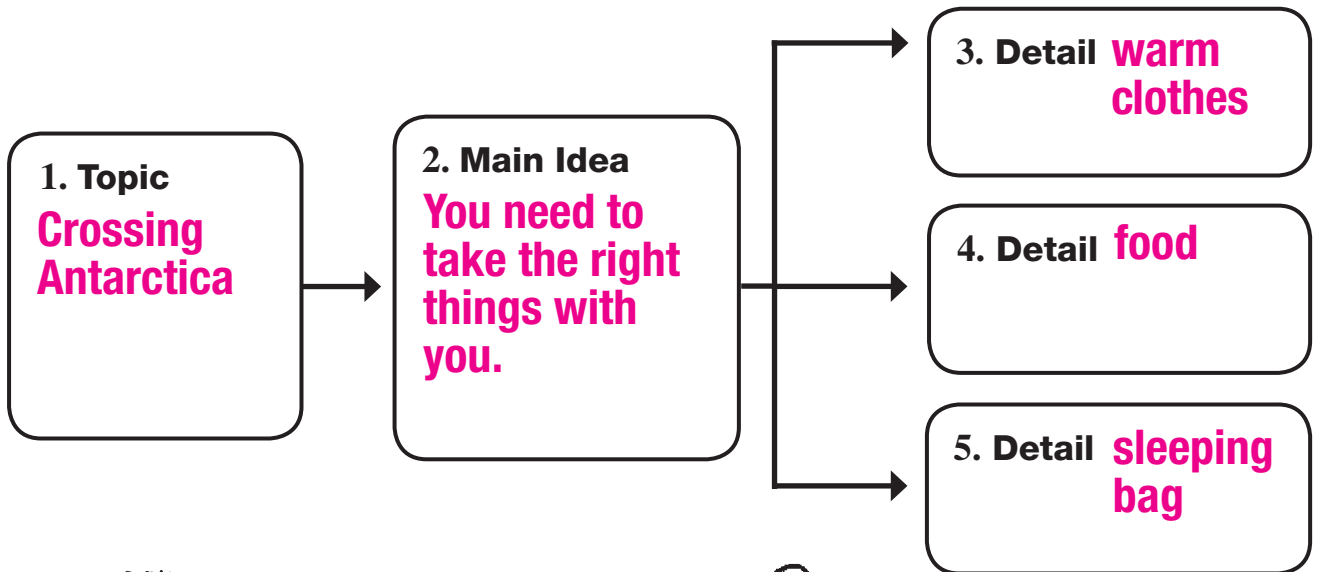
Directions Read the following passage. Complete the graphic organizer below.

What if you wanted to cross Antarctica? What would you need to take along?

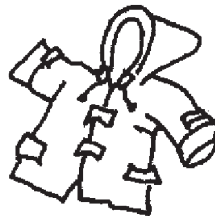
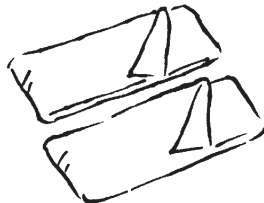
You would need warm clothes, such as a parka and fur-lined boots. You'd also need bulky socks, thick pants, and the warmest mittens you could find!

Don't forget to bring your own food. You could warm frozen casseroles over a fire and eat nuts and snack bars during the day.

At night, you'll need a sleeping bag. Take the warmest one you can find so you are sure to keep warm all night long!



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Home Activity Your child found the topic, main idea, and details in a passage. Read a nonfiction book to your child. To find the topic, ask, "In one word, what is the book all about?" To find the main idea, help your child make a sentence that tells the most important part about the topic. Then ask your child to list several details that tell more about the main idea.