

Name _____

Main Idea

- The **main idea** is the most important idea about a paragraph, passage, or story.
- **Details** are small pieces of information that tell more about the main idea.

Directions Read the following passage. Then answer the questions below.

Third-grade students have many things to do each day. Homework, sports, and family activities take up a lot of time.

It can be hard to decide what to do when. If you don't plan your time

well, you might forget to do something important. Sometimes people put off doing things until the last minute. Then they don't have enough time left to do a good job.

Possible responses given.

1. Use one to three words to tell what this paragraph is about.

planning time well

2. What is the main idea of the paragraph?

It is important to plan your time well.

3. What is one detail that tells more about the main idea?

Homework, sports, and family activities take up a lot of time.

4. What is another detail about the main idea?

If you don't plan your time well, you might forget to do something important.

5. What is a third detail about the main idea?

You need to plan enough time to do a good job.