

Name _____

Main Idea

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

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

Tina’s mother collects teacups made of English bone china. China is another name for porcelain. Porcelain was first made in China, hundreds of years ago. That is why people often call it china. For a long time the Chinese guarded the secret

of how porcelain is made. But after a while their secret began to spread to other countries. Then, about two hundred years ago, the English added ash, made from animal bones, to make a special kind of porcelain called bone china.

1. In one or two words, what is this paragraph about?

2. What is the main idea of the paragraph?

3–4. What are the two details that tell more about the main idea?

5–7. Imagine you are writing a paragraph about one of the characters in *Collecting Dreams*. Write the main idea of your paragraph and two details to support that main idea.

Main idea _____

Detail _____

Detail _____