

## Determining Important Ideas

- Explain to students that an important idea is the main thing the author is trying to tell readers.
- Have students read a chapter of the text. Ask: “What is the main thing the author is trying to tell you?”
- Have students think, pair, share about what the important idea is. As a group, discuss their thoughts and decide on what the important idea is.
- Explain that important ideas are often surrounded by details that tell the reader more about idea – they support the idea.
- Have students think, pair, share to find supporting details for the important idea they identified in this chapter.
- Next, ask students to summarize what the book has been about so far. Discuss that they have probably used important ideas to make their summary.
- Together, discuss how finding the important ideas in a text helps readers to understand the author’s purpose for writing, and to summarize the text.

*Notes:*