

# Summarizing Nonfiction

The goal of this resource is to help students understand what makes a good summary. Before being able to write a successful summary, students have to have a clear understanding of what should be included in a summary as well as should NOT be included in a summary.

In this resource, students will be practicing identifying what details should be included in a summary and what details should NOT be included in a summary. Students will also be comparing “good” summaries to “bad” summaries.

Each section practices a different part of what makes up a summary so students can practice skills they are struggling with in isolation.

# Summarizing Nonfiction

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Answer Key

# What Makes a Good Summary

- A summary only includes information from the reading passage or book. No additional information is added.
- A summary explains what the author thinks. Do not include your opinion.
- A summary includes only the most important ideas.
- A summary includes enough details to tell the important ideas, but not too many unimportant details.
- A summary includes your own words. Do not copy sentences word for word from the passage or book.

# Summaries Only Include Information from the Passage

Pages 4-7

This section helps students understand that summaries should only include information from the passage or book that is being read. Summaries cannot have additional information, even if it is true!

Students read a nonfiction passage. Then, they sort statements into 2 groups.

1. Statements from the passage that could be included in a summary.
2. Statements NOT from the passage that could NOT be included in a summary.

Finally, students read 2 summaries (one of them includes additional information) and have to choose which summary is best. Students must explain their reasoning.

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

Read the passage below. Come up with an appropriate title for the passage. Then, use the information from the passage to complete the activities on the next page.

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Millions of people take a trip to a beach every year in the United States. Spending a day at the beach can be a lot of fun. However, if you arrive unprepared, your beach trip could quickly be ruined by a painful sunburn!

The most important thing you should do to prepare for a trip to the beach is to bring items that will help protect you from the sun's UV rays. Sunscreen can help protect your skin and prevent sunburns. A hat with a wide brim all the way around helps to protect your entire face, including your ears and the back of your neck, while sunglasses help protect your eyes. When packing for a trip to the beach, be sure to remember all of these items!

It takes less than 20 minutes to get a sunburn, but you probably won't see any redness or feel any pain for several hours. That's why you should put sunscreen on before you even get to the beach. Then, once you are at the beach, put more on every few hours or after you are done swimming.

Make sure your trip to the beach is all fun and no pain by preventing a sunburn before it happens. Taking just a few minutes to prepare properly can protect your skin and guarantee a great day.



Don't forget to put sunscreen on your face!

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

When you write a summary, you must only include information from the reading passage or book you are summarizing. You cannot include any additional information, even if it is true!

Think about what statements could be included in a summary of the passage you just read about going to the beach. Cut out the statements at the bottom of the page and glue them in the correct column below.

Statements from the Passage  
That Could Be  
Included in a Summary

Statements NOT  
from the Passage That Could  
NOT Be Included in A Summary

Bringing items that protect you from the sun is important when taking a trip to the beach.	An umbrella provides shade, which protects you from the sun's UV rays.	Sunscreen, sunglasses, and hats can protect you from the sun's UV rays.
Sunburns can be very itchy and make your skin blister.	When preparing for a trip to the beach, make sure to bring beach towels and a change of clothes.	Sunburns can ruin a fun trip to the beach.

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

When you write a summary, you must only include information from the reading passage or book you are summarizing. You cannot include any additional information, even if it is true!

Read the two summaries below.

### SUMMARY 1

If you are planning on going to the beach, make sure you prepare so that your trip won't be ruined by a sunburn. Bring sunscreen, a hat, and sunglasses with you. Put sunscreen on before you are at the beach, and then put it on again later. This will help protect your skin.

### SUMMARY 2

If you are planning on going to the beach, make sure you prepare so that your trip won't be ruined by a sunburn. Put on sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15. Make sure to rub your entire body, including your face and ears, with sunscreen. If you do get sunburned, drink a lot of water the next few days and put on aloe vera to help with the itching.

Circle the summary that you think is better. Why do you think it is better?

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# Summaries Don't Include Your Opinion

## Pages 8-11

This section helps students understand that they should not add their own opinion to a summary.

Students read a nonfiction passage. Then, they sort statements into 2 groups.

1. Statements from the passage that could be included in a summary.
2. Opinions NOT from the passage that could NOT be included in a summary.

Finally, students read 2 summaries (one of them includes opinions not from the passage) and have to choose which summary is best. Students must explain their reasoning.

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

Read the passage below. Come up with an appropriate title for the passage. Then, use the information from the passage to complete the activities on the next page.

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Sarah Breedlove was born on December 23, 1867 in Louisiana. The rest of her family, including her older siblings, had all been born slaves. Sarah was the first one in her family to be born a free person.

Even though she was born free, she was very poor and had a difficult childhood. Sarah's parents had both died by the time Sarah was 7. Sarah and her siblings worked on the cotton plantation where Sarah was born, but it was hard to make a living. Eventually, Sarah moved to Mississippi with her older sister Louvenia.

Sarah married a man named Moses when she was only 14. They had a daughter named Lelia. Moses died while Lelia was still very young.

Sarah had begun to lose her hair. After experimenting with several different hair care products, she found a way to help improve her hair. Then, she started selling this to other African American women. Starting this business changed her life.

During this time, she married a man named Charles Joseph Walker, and she changed her name to Madam C.J. Walker. Charles helped her advertise her hair products, and her business grew more and more. She built a factory that helped produce her products and a training school to help African Americans learn how to take care of hair and sell hair products.

Madam C.J. Walker was one of the first female self-made millionaires in the United States – maybe even THE first. She believed her success came from hard work. She once said, "If I have accomplished anything in life it is because I have been willing to work hard."

Madam C.J. Walker used her wealth to help others. She gave money to organizations that helped African Americans get a better education and have more equal rights.

Even though Madam C.J. Walker's life had been difficult and she was very poor, she never gave up. She decided she wanted to improve her life, and she did.

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

When you write a summary, you must only include information from the reading passage or book you are summarizing. You cannot include any additional information or **add your opinion**, even if it is true!

Think about what statements could be included in a summary of the passage you just read about Madam C.J. Walker. Cut out the statements at the bottom of the page and glue them in the correct column below.

Statements from the Passage  
That Could Be  
Included in a Summary

Opinions NOT  
from the Passage That Could  
NOT Be Included in A Summary

Madam C.J. Walker believed her success came from hard work.

Sarah's sister Louvenia took good care of Sarah after their parents died.

After losing some of her hair, Sarah experimented with different hair care products.

Madam C.J. Walker wouldn't have been as successful if she had been born a slave.

Madam C.J. Walker was one of the first female self-made millionaires in the U.S.

Madam C.J. Walker was lucky that her husband Charles helped with her advertising.

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

When you write a summary, you must only include information from the reading passage or book you are summarizing. You cannot include any additional information or **add your opinion**, even if it is true!

Read the two summaries below.

### SUMMARY 1

Sarah Breedlove was born poor and had to work hard as a child. When she was older, Sarah began experimenting with different hair products because she started losing her hair. She used what she learned to start her own business. Eventually, Sarah (now known as Madam CJ Walker) became one of the first female millionaires in the United States.

### SUMMARY 2

Sarah Breedlove was born very poor. Even though she wasn't a slave, she had to work hard in a cotton plantation. It was very unfair on her and her brothers and sisters. However, later in life she was very lucky and eventually became a millionaire because she was in the right place at the right time. Sarah Breedlove (later named Madam CJ Walker) really liked being rich.

Circle the summary that you think is better. Why do you think it is better?

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# Summaries Include the Most Important Information

Pages 12-15

This section helps students understand that summaries should only include the MOST important information.

Students read a nonfiction passage. Then, they sort statements into 2 groups.

1. Most important details that should be included in a summary.
2. Details that are NOT as important.

Finally, students read 2 summaries (one of them includes details that are not important) and have to choose which summary is best. Students must explain their reasoning.

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

Read the passage below. Come up with an appropriate title for the passage. Then, use the information from the passage to complete the activities on the next page.

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Iceland is known as the land of fire and ice. The “fire” part of fire and ice is because there are around 30 active volcanoes currently in Iceland. The “ice” part of fire and ice is because of the many glaciers (slow moving chunks of ice) on Iceland. Iceland’s unique features make it an amazing place to visit.

The best way to see the beauty of Iceland is to hike through it. The Laugavegur Trail is one of the best known trails in Iceland. People come from all over the world to hike 34 miles through the land of fire and ice and see the volcanoes and glaciers that Iceland is known for.

It takes a lot of time and preparation to hike this trail. Most people can’t hike 34 miles in one day, so before going on the hike it is important to plan out how you are going to eat and where you are going to sleep.

Most people carry the food they will eat while they hike the Laugavegur Trail in a backpack that they take with them. Some people also carry a tent and a sleeping bag in that same backpack so that they can camp at night. Other people pay money to stay in huts that are along the trail.

It is also important to bring the right clothing for hiking. Iceland can be cold, windy, and rainy, so you need clothes that can keep you warm and dry.

If you are willing to put in the planning and preparation necessary to hike this trail, you will be rewarded with unbelievable views. This trail has it all – rivers, colorful mountains, canyons, volcanoes, snow, waterfalls, hot springs, geysers, black sands, and more. Every time you turn a corner another breathtaking view greets you. Walking through this land of fire and ice is worth all of the effort.



# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

A summary is supposed to be a shortened version of the most important parts of a reading passage. When you write a summary, you should only include the information that is MOST IMPORTANT to the passage.

Think about what statements could be included in a summary of the passage you just read about Iceland. Cut out the statements at the bottom of the page and glue them in the correct column below.

Most Important Details  
That Should Be  
Included in a Summary

Details That are NOT as  
Important

Most people can't hike 34 miles in one day.

There are around 30 active volcanoes in Iceland.

Hiking the Laugavegur Trail is a good way to see the land of fire and ice.

Hiking the Laugavegur Trail takes time and preparation.

The Laugavegur trail has geysers and waterfalls.

The views you see when hiking the Laugavegur Trail make all the planning worth the effort.

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

A summary is supposed to be a shortened version of the most important parts of a reading passage. When you write a summary, you should only include the information that is MOST IMPORTANT to the passage.

Read the two summaries below.

### SUMMARY 1

Iceland has volcanoes and glaciers. Glaciers are slow moving chunks of ice. Iceland also has the Laugaveger Trail, which is 34 miles long. Some people stay in huts along the trail. Other people camp in tents at night. Iceland can be very cold and windy. You will see canyons, volcanoes, and hot springs when hiking the trail.

### SUMMARY 2

The Laugavegur Trail is a hiking trail in Iceland, the land of fire and ice. Hiking the trail can take several days, so it is important to plan what you are going to eat, where you are going to sleep, and what you are going to wear. If you put in the preparation, the views you see along the Laugavegur Trail make hiking it worth all of the effort.

Circle the summary that you think is better. Why do you think it is better?

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# Summaries Are Not Copied From the Passage

## Summaries Can't Include Too Many Details or Too Few Details

Pages 16-19

This section helps students understand that summaries should include all of the important information (but not too many details), and that summaries should not be copied.

Students read a nonfiction passage. Then, they read and cut out 4 summaries about the passage. Students must choose which summary is best, and what is wrong with the other 3 summaries. They glue the summaries next to one of the following 4 statements:

1. The Best Summary
2. The Summary That Just Copied Sentences From the Passage
3. The Summary With Too Many Unimportant Details
4. The Summary With Too Few Details

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

Read the passage below. Come up with an appropriate title for the passage. Then, use the information from the passage to complete the activities on the next page.

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

*Liquidambar styraciflua* (more commonly known as the Sweetgum Tree) can be found in many yards across the southern United States. This tree is called a "Sweetgum" Tree because its dried sap can be used to make chewing gum. It's not a gum you would want, though – it has a very bitter taste.

This tree produces a very special kind of "fruit" – a hard, spiky ball sometimes called a sweetgum ball. Humans don't eat this "fruit," but animals like chipmunks, squirrels, and birds fight through the prickly spines to eat the seeds inside.



Many people don't like Sweetgum Trees because of the prickly fruit it produces. The trees produce a LOT of these sweetgum balls, which fall to the ground and litter yards. Stepping on this prickly fruit can be extremely painful. Raking up the sweetgum balls is difficult, though, so people who own this tree have to pick the sweetgum balls up one by one if they don't want them in their yards.

There are some advantages to these trees, however. The Sweetgum Tree is beautiful in the fall, with leaves that turn red and yellow. It also grows fairly quickly (some can be almost 100 feet tall) and provides good shade during the summer. Also, the spiky fruit can keep animals like rabbits away from plants and gardens.

Before planting a Sweetgum Tree in your yard, be sure to think through all of the pros and cons. Although this tree is very beautiful, its prickly fruit can be very annoying.

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

A summary is NOT copying the important sentences word for word. Instead, use your own words to restate the most important ideas.

A summary also needs to include only the most important parts. If your summary has too many details, then you are probably including ideas that are not very important. If your summary has too few details, then you are probably missing some important parts.

Cut out the summaries below, and then glue them in the correct spot on the next page.

The Sweetgum Tree produces a prickly fruit. This fruit can be very annoying to the owners of the tree.

The Sweetgum Tree gets its name from its sap, which can be used as chewing gum. It produces a hard, spiky fruit that can be annoying and painful to step on. Despite the spiky fruit, some people like the tree because of the shade it can provide and the color of its leaves in the fall.

The Sweetgum Tree has sap that can be used as chewing gum. It also has fruit that is prickly. Animals like birds and squirrels eat the seeds from this fruit. Stepping on the fruit can hurt your feet. The fruit is also hard to rake up. People have to pick up the sweetgum balls one by one. This tree can be very beautiful in the fall. It can grow up to 100 feet. Before planting a Sweetgum Tree, think very carefully about it.

*Liquidambar styraciflua* (more commonly known as the Sweetgum Tree) can be found in many yards across the southern United States. This tree produces a very special kind of "fruit" – a hard, spiky ball sometimes called a sweetgum ball. Although this tree is very beautiful, its prickly fruit can be very annoying.

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

Read each of the summaries you cut out carefully. Think about which summary is best and what is wrong with the other 3 summaries. Glue each of the summaries in the correct spot below.

The BEST  
Summary



The Summary That Just Copied  
Sentences From the Passage



The Summary With  
Too Many Unimportant Details



The Summary With Too Few  
Details



# Reviewing What A Summary Is

## Pages 20-23

This section is a review of some of the other parts of a summary that students have been practicing.

Students read a nonfiction passage. Then, they read and cut out 4 summaries about the passage. Students must choose which summary is best, and what is wrong with the other 3 summaries. They glue the summaries next to one of the following 4 statements:

1. The Best Summary
2. The Summary With Too Many Unimportant Details
3. The Summary With Opinions NOT From the Passage
4. The Summary That Just Copied Sentences From the Passage

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

Read the passage below. Come up with an appropriate title for the passage. Then, use the information from the passage to complete the activities on the next page.

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

What do you want to be when you grow up? Most kids would answer this questions with jobs like firefighter, teacher, astronaut, football player, or doctor. Although these are all great jobs to aspire to, there are many other, more unusual jobs out there – like a golf ball diver.

Golf ball divers get paid by retrieving golf balls that have been hit into the small ponds throughout golf courses. Since golf balls are waterproof, being wet doesn't hurt them. These golf balls can be recycled and reused so that not as many new golf balls need to be made.

This job is much more than just sticking your hands in the pond and pulling out a few golf balls. Most golf ball divers get paid a small amount for each ball they find. In order to make enough money to provide for themselves and their families, the divers have to find a LOT of golf balls.



**Most golf courses have several ponds that are hiding thousands of golf balls.**

Golf ball divers must be certified scuba divers. Scuba divers use a special gear that helps them be able to breath underwater so that they can stay underwater for long periods of time. Golf ball divers also must be in good shape because they spend long hours crawling around in mud and carrying heavy buckets of golf balls around.

This job can also be dangerous. Usually, the water is very murky, so it is hard to see. Sometimes golf ball divers are swimming among alligators, water snakes, or snapping turtles.

Some people think that this job is too risky and crazy. Most golf ball divers, however, enjoy getting paid for spending their days underwater.

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

Think about what makes a good summary. Read the summaries below and think about which summary is best and what is wrong with the other summaries.

Cut out the summaries below and glue them in the correct spot on the next page.

Golf ball divers get paid by retrieving golf balls that have been hit into the small ponds throughout golf courses. In order to make enough money to provide for themselves and their families, the divers have to find a LOT of golf balls. This job can also be dangerous. Sometimes golf ball divers are swimming among alligators, water snakes, or snapping turtles.

Golf ball divers find golf balls that have been hit into the water. They recycle these golf balls because they really care about the environment. Golf ball divers are also extremely brave. They have to fight off dangerous animals like alligators and snakes. If you want to be a golf ball diver, you have to work extremely hard.

Most kids want to be astronauts, football players, or doctors when they grow up instead of a golf ball diver. Golf ball divers can get golf balls out of the water because golf balls are waterproof. Golf ball divers scuba dive. Scuba diving uses equipment that helps you breath underwater. Golf ball divers breath underwater for a long time. They carry buckets and they have to swim in water that is murky.

Golf ball diving is an unusual job. Golf ball divers get paid a small amount for each ball that they get out of the water at golf courses. Golf ball divers must know how to scuba dive and they must be in good shape. This can be a dangerous job because they swim around with animals like alligators underwater.

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

Read each of the summaries you cut out carefully. Think about which summary is best and what is wrong with the other 3 summaries. Glue each of the summaries in the correct spot below.

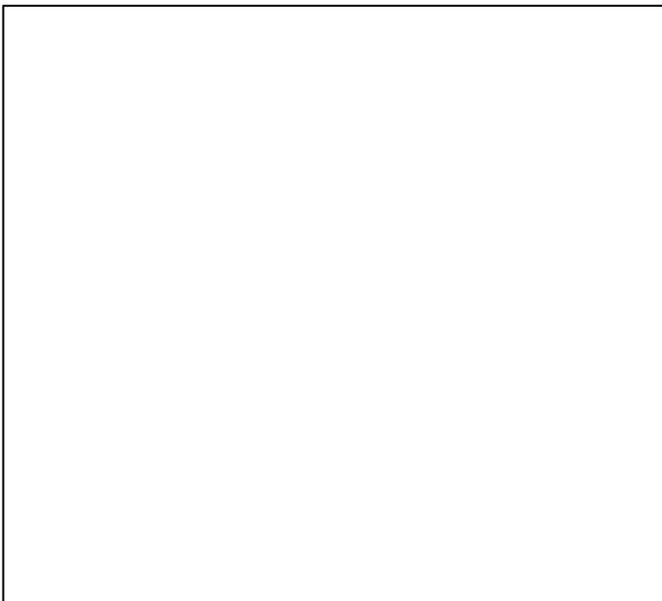
The BEST  
Summary



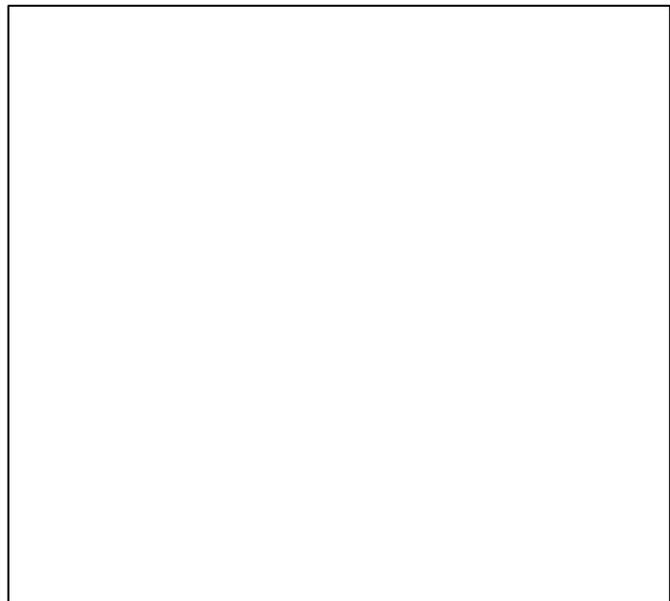
The Summary With Too Many  
Unimportant Details



The Summary With Opinions NOT  
From the Passage



The Summary That Just Copied  
Sentences From the Passage



# Summary Scavenger Hunt

## Pages 24-30

This section is a review of some of the other parts of a summary that students have been practicing.

1. Cut out the summary cards and scatter the cards throughout the room. (Pages 26-28)
2. Have students read the nonfiction reading passage. (Page 25)
3. Have individuals or partners find the summary cards.
4. When students find a summary card, have them read the summary and decide if it is a "good" or "bad" summary. Hint: Of the 12 summary cards, only 1 of them is "good."
5. Have students explain why the summary is "good" or "bad" next to the summary card number on the answer sheet (Pages 29-30)
6. Students continue until they have found all of the summary cards.

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

Read the passage below. Come up with an appropriate title for the passage. Then, use the information from the passage to complete the activities on the next page.

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

The last time you got a check up, your doctor probably asked you to stick out your tongue. Have you ever wondered why the doctor wanted to look at your tongue? It is because your tongue can tell a lot about your overall health.

Healthy tongues are supposed to be a nice pink color. If your tongue is not the right shade of pink, then doctors know that something is probably wrong – you might be sick.

For example, a bright red tongue could mean you have a sore throat or a fever. Or, a bright red tongue could mean you need more Vitamin B12.



People who have white spots or patches on their tongue might be dehydrated and need to drink more water, or they might have an infection. People who don't brush or floss their teeth enough, or people who smoke, might also get white patches on their tongue.

A tongue can also get swollen, become black and hairy, or get bumps and ridges on it. If you notice your tongue is changing color or texture, it is probably time to visit your doctor.

Dogs and cats are also supposed to have a pink tongue. If you notice your pet has a different colored tongue, this is a clue that it is time to take your dog to the vet. Veterinarians sometimes use the color of an animal's tongue to help them diagnose what is wrong with your pet.

Since your tongue is such an important clue about your overall health, be sure to take care of it! When you brush your teeth, make sure you also spend some time brushing your tongue. While you are at it, make sure your pet gets their teeth brushed as well.

1.

Your tongue can tell a lot about your overall health. Healthy tongues are supposed to be a nice pink color. If your tongue is not the right shade of pink, then doctors know that something is probably wrong. Since your tongue is such an important clue about your overall health, be sure to take care of it!

2.

Doctors ask you to stick out your tongue. A bright red tongue might mean you need more Vitamin B12. Some people get white patches on their tongue. Some people have tongues that get black and hairy. Dogs and cats need to go to the vet sometimes.

3.

When you are brushing your teeth, you should take a close look at your tongue. If your tongue is not a normal shade of pink, it is time to go to the doctor. You might be sick, especially if your tongue is black and hairy. Gross! Make sure you brush your tongue while you are brushing your teeth.

4.

Tongues can tell a doctor how healthy you are. Tongues are supposed to be pink.

5.

When you go to the doctor, you will probably have to stick out your tongue. Doctors can tell if you have an ear infection just by looking at your tongue. Veterinarians look at cat and dog tongues as well. If your dog's tongue is bright red, it might have a sore throat. Be sure to take your pet to the vet if its tongue is an unusual color.

6.

Dogs and cats are also supposed to have a pink tongue. If you notice your pet has a different colored tongue, this is a clue that it is time to take your dog to the vet. Veterinarians sometimes use the color of an animal's tongue to help them diagnose what is wrong with your pet. Make sure your pet gets their teeth brushed.

7.

If your tongue is the wrong color, then doctors know that you might be sick.

8.

Doctors ask to look at tongues because if your tongue is not the normal shade of pink, then you might be sick. Tongues can turn bright red, get white patches, become swollen, and more. Veterinarians also look at the tongues of animals to help them figure out what might be wrong. Since your tongue can tell a doctor so much, be sure and take care of it!

9.

Doctors and veterinarians are really smart. They can tell if you are sick just by looking at your tongue. If you like looking at tongues, then maybe you should become a doctor or veterinarian.

10.

Bright red tongues could mean you have a sore throat or a fever, or it could mean your body needs a certain vitamin. Tongues can get white patches if you smoke. Tongues can also get white patches if you need to drink more water or if you don't brush and floss your teeth enough.

11.

Tongues are absolutely amazing! They can change colors, just like a chameleon changes colors. When you stick out your tongue in front of a mirror, check to see if it is a nice shade of pink. If not, it's time to go to the doctor.

12.

Doctors know that bright red tongues might mean their patient has a sore throat. If you have a swollen tongue, you might have an allergic reaction to something that you ate. Dogs and cats can get swollen tongues as well. This makes it hard for them to eat.

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

Find the summaries hidden around the room. Find the summary card number on your answer sheet. Explain why the summary is a good one or a bad one next to the correct number. **HINT: There will be only 1 good summary!**

#	Good/Bad Summary	Explain Why
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

Find the summaries hidden around the room. Find the summary card number on your answer sheet. Explain why the summary is a good one or a bad one next to the correct number. **HINT: There will be only 1 good summary!**

#	Good/Bad Summary	Explain Why
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		

# Answer Keys/ Grading Rubric Pages 31-42

The grading rubric (page 32) can be used for all of the activities if you prefer it to an answer key. It assesses your students' overall understanding of summarizing.

Answer keys (pages 33-42) are also provided for all of the activities in this resource.

# Summarizing Nonfiction: Grading Rubric

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

3 points

2 points

1 point

	<u>3 points</u>	<u>2 points</u>	<u>1 point</u>
<u>Completeness</u>	All of the required activities are completed.	Most of the required activities are completed.	Few of the required activities are completed.
<u>Accuracy of Content</u>	All of the information regarding summarizing is accurate. The student demonstrated a thorough knowledge of what makes a good summary.	Most of the information regarding summarizing is accurate. The student demonstrated an average knowledge of what makes a good summary.	Very little of the information regarding summarizing is accurate. The student demonstrated a limited knowledge of what makes a good summary.
<u>Conventions</u>	There are very few errors in spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and grammar.	There are several errors in spelling, capitalization, punctuation, or grammar.	There are many errors in spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and grammar. Because of these errors, the answers are very difficult to read.

Total Points out of 9:

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

When you write a summary, you must only include information from the reading passage or book you are summarizing. You cannot include any additional information, even if it is true!

Think about what statements could be included in a summary of the passage you just read about going to the beach. Cut out the statements at the bottom of the page and glue them in the correct column below.

Statements from the Passage  
That Could Be  
Included in a Summary

Statements NOT  
from the Passage That Could  
NOT Be Included in A Summary

Bringing items that protect you from the sun is important when taking a trip to the beach.

Sunscreen, sunglasses, and hats can protect you from the sun's UV rays.

Sunburns can ruin a fun trip to the beach.

An umbrella provides shade, which protects you from the sun's UV rays.

Sunburns can be very itchy and make your skin blister.

When preparing for a trip to the beach, make sure to bring beach towels and a change of clothes.

Bringing items that protect you from the sun is important when taking a trip to the beach.

An umbrella provides shade, which protects you from the sun's UV rays.

Sunscreen, sunglasses, and hats can protect you from the sun's UV rays.

Sunburns can be very itchy and make your skin blister.

When preparing for a trip to the beach, make sure to bring beach towels and a change of clothes.

Sunburns can ruin a fun trip to the beach.

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

When you write a summary, you must only include information from the reading passage or book you are summarizing. You cannot include any additional information, even if it is true!

Read the two summaries below.

### SUMMARY 1

If you are planning on going to the beach, make sure you prepare so that your trip won't be ruined by a sunburn. Bring sunscreen, a hat, and sunglasses with you. Put sunscreen on before you are at the beach, and then put it on again later. This will help protect your skin.

### SUMMARY 2

If you are planning on going to the beach, make sure you prepare so that your trip won't be ruined by a sunburn. Put on sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15. Make sure to rub your entire body, including your face and ears, with sunscreen. If you do get sunburned, drink a lot of water the next few days and put on aloe vera to help with the itching.

Circle the summary that you think is better. Why do you think it is better?

Answers will vary. The first summary includes only  
information from the passage, while the second summary  
includes additional information.

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

When you write a summary, you must only include information from the reading passage or book you are summarizing. You cannot include any additional information or **add your opinion**, even if it is true!

Think about what statements could be included in a summary of the passage you just read about Madam C.J. Walker. Cut out the statements at the bottom of the page and glue them in the correct column below.

Statements from the Passage  
That Could Be  
Included in a Summary

Opinions NOT  
from the Passage That Could  
NOT Be Included in A Summary

Madam C.J. Walker  
believed her success  
came from hard work.

After losing some of her  
hair, Sarah experimented  
with different hair care  
products.

Madam C.J. Walker was  
was one of the first  
female self-made  
millionaires in the U.S.

Sarah's sister Louvenia  
took good care of Sarah  
after their parents died.

Madam C.J. Walker  
wouldn't have been as  
successful if she had  
been born a slave.

Madam C.J. Walker was  
lucky that her husband  
Charles helped with her  
advertising.

Madam C.J. Walker  
believed her success  
came from hard work.

Sarah's sister Louvenia  
took good care of Sarah  
after their parents died.

After losing some of her  
hair, Sarah experimented  
with different hair care  
products.

Madam C.J. Walker  
wouldn't have been as  
successful if she had  
been born a slave.

Madam C.J. Walker was  
was one of the first  
female self-made  
millionaires in the U.S.

Madam C.J. Walker was  
lucky that her husband  
Charles helped with her  
advertising.

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

When you write a summary, you must only include information from the reading passage or book you are summarizing. You cannot include any additional information or **add your opinion**, even if it is true!

Read the two summaries below.

### SUMMARY 1

Sarah Breedlove was born poor and had to work hard as a child. When she was older, Sarah began experimenting with different hair products because she started losing her hair. She used what she learned to start her own business. Eventually, Sarah (now known as Madam CJ Walker) became one of the first female millionaires in the United States.

### SUMMARY 2

Sarah Breedlove was born very poor. Even though she wasn't a slave, she had to work hard in a cotton plantation. It was very unfair on her and her brothers and sisters. However, later in life she was very lucky and eventually became a millionaire because she was in the right place at the right time. Sarah Breedlove (later named Madam CJ Walker) really liked being rich.

Circle the summary that you think is better. Why do you think it is better?

Answers will vary. The first summary includes only  
information from the passage, while the second summary  
includes additional opinions not from the passage.

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

A summary is supposed to be a shortened version of the most important parts of a reading passage. When you write a summary, you should only include the information that is MOST IMPORTANT to the passage.

Think about what statements could be included in a summary of the passage you just read about Iceland. Cut out the statements at the bottom of the page and glue them in the correct column below.

Most Important Details  
That Should Be  
Included in a Summary

Details That are NOT as  
Important

Hiking the Laugavegur Trail is a good way to see the land of fire and ice.

Most people can't hike 34 miles in one day.

Hiking the Laugavegur Trail takes time and preparation.

There are around 30 active volcanoes in Iceland.

The views you see when hiking the Laugavegur Trail make all the planning worth the effort.

The Laugavegur trail has geysers and waterfalls.

Most people can't hike 34 miles in one day.

There are around 30 active volcanoes in Iceland.

Hiking the Laugavegur Trail is a good way to see the land of fire and ice.

Hiking the Laugavegur Trail takes time and preparation.

The Laugavegur trail has geysers and waterfalls.

The views you see when hiking the Laugavegur Trail make all the planning worth the effort.

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

A summary is supposed to be a shortened version of the most important parts of a reading passage. When you write a summary, you should only include the information that is MOST IMPORTANT to the passage.

Read the two summaries below.

### SUMMARY 1

Iceland has volcanoes and glaciers. Glaciers are slow moving chunks of ice. Iceland also has the Laugaveger Trail, which is 34 miles long. Some people stay in huts along the trail. Other people camp in tents at night. Iceland can be very cold and windy. You will see canyons, volcanoes, and hot springs when hiking the trail.

### SUMMARY 2

The Laugavegur Trail is a hiking trail in Iceland, the land of fire and ice. Hiking the trail can take several days, so it is important to plan what you are going to eat, where you are going to sleep, and what you are going to wear. If you put in the preparation, the views you see along the Laugavegur Trail make hiking it worth all of the effort.

Circle the summary that you think is better. Why do you think it is better?

Answers will vary. The first summary includes details from the passage, but it doesn't include a lot of the important information. The second summary includes more information that is important to the passage.

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

Read each of the summaries you cut out carefully. Think about which summary is best and what is wrong with the other 3 summaries. Glue each of the summaries in the correct spot below.

### The BEST Summary

The Sweetgum Tree gets its name from its sap, which can be used as chewing gum. It produces a hard, spiky fruit that can be annoying and painful to step on. Despite the spiky fruit, some people like the tree because of the shade it can provide and the color of its leaves in the fall.

### The Summary That Just Copied Sentences From the Passage

*Liquidambar styraciflua* (more commonly known as the Sweetgum Tree) can be found in many yards across the southern United States. This tree produces a very special kind of "fruit" – a hard, spiky ball sometimes called a sweetgum ball. Although this tree is very beautiful, its prickly fruit can be very annoying.

### The Summary With Too Many Details

The Sweetgum Tree has sap that can be used as chewing gum. It also has fruit that is prickly. Animals like birds and squirrels eat the seeds from this fruit. Stepping on the fruit can hurt your feet. The fruit is also hard to rake up. People have to pick up the sweetgum balls one by one. This tree can be very beautiful in the fall. It can grow up to 100 feet. Before planting a Sweetgum Tree, think very carefully about it.

### The Summary With Too Few Details

The Sweetgum Tree produces a prickly fruit. This fruit can be very annoying to the owners of the tree.

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

Read each of the summaries you cut out carefully. Think about which summary is best and what is wrong with the other 3 summaries. Glue each of the summaries in the correct spot below.

### The BEST Summary

Golf ball diving is an unusual job. Golf ball divers get paid a small amount for each ball that they get out of the water at golf courses. Golf ball divers must know how to scuba dive and they must be in good shape. This can be a dangerous job because they swim around with animals like alligators underwater.

### The Summary With Too Many Unimportant Details

Most kids want to be astronauts, football players, or doctors when they grow up instead of a golf ball diver. Golf ball divers can get golf balls out of the water because golf balls are waterproof. Golf ball divers scuba dive. Scuba diving uses equipment that helps you breath underwater. Golf ball divers breath underwater for a long time. They carry buckets and they have to swim in water that is murky.

### The Summary With Opinions NOT From the Passage

Golf ball divers find golf balls that have been hit into the water. They recycle these golf balls because they really care about the environment. Golf ball divers are also extremely brave. They have to fight off dangerous animals like alligators and snakes. If you want to be a golf ball diver, you have to work extremely hard.

### The Summary That Just Copied Sentences From the Passage

Golf ball divers get paid by retrieving golf balls that have been hit into the small ponds throughout golf courses. In order to make enough money to provide for themselves and their families, the divers have to find a LOT of golf balls. This job can also be dangerous. Sometimes golf ball divers are swimming among alligators, water snakes, or snapping turtles.

# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

Find the summaries hidden around the room. Find the summary card number on your answer sheet. Explain why the summary is a good one or a bad one next to the correct number. **HINT: There will be only 1 good summary!**

#	Good/Bad Summary	Explain Why
1	Bad Summary	This summary has sentences that are copied word for word from the reading passage.
2	Bad Summary	This summary doesn't include the most important details. Instead, it includes too many details that are not important.
3	Bad Summary	This summary includes the writer's own opinions that are not from the reading passage.
4	Bad Summary	This summary does not include enough information. The summary needs a few more details.
5	Bad Summary	This summary includes information that is not from the reading passage.
6	Bad Summary	This summary has sentences that are copied word for word from the reading passage. This summary also doesn't include the most important details.

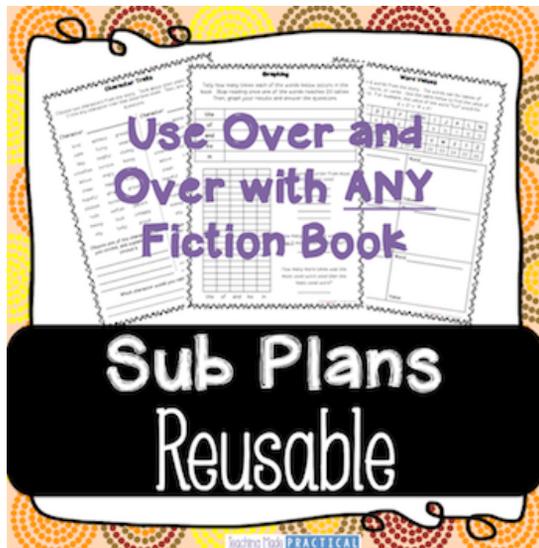
# Summarizing

## Nonfiction

Find the summaries hidden around the room. Find the summary card number on your answer sheet. Explain why the summary is a good one or a bad one next to the correct number. **HINT: There will be only 1 good summary!**

#	Good/Bad Summary	Explain Why
7	Bad Summary	This summary does not include enough information. The summary needs a few more details.
8	GOOD Summary	This summary includes the most important information. It is not copied directly from the reading passage. It only includes information from the reading passage.
9	Bad Summary	This summary includes the writer's own opinions that are not from the reading passage.
10	Bad Summary	This summary doesn't include the most important details. Instead, it includes too many details that are not important.
11	Bad Summary	This summary includes the writer's own opinions that are not from the reading passage.
12	Bad Summary	This summary includes information that is not from the reading passage.

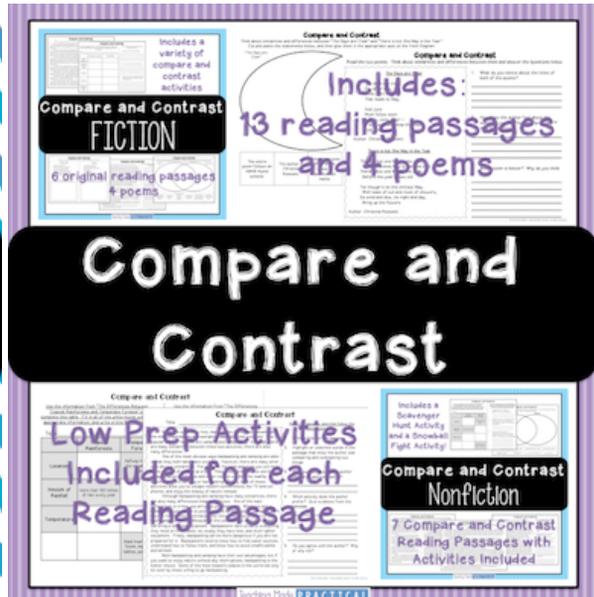
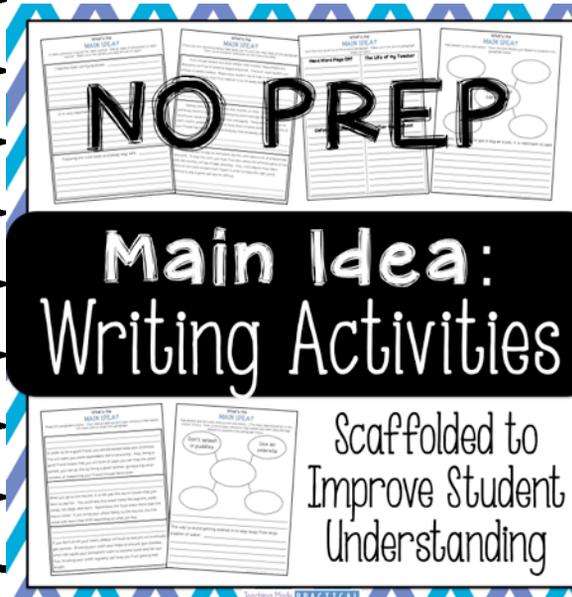
# Thank You!



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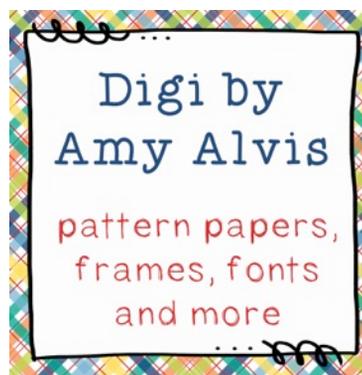
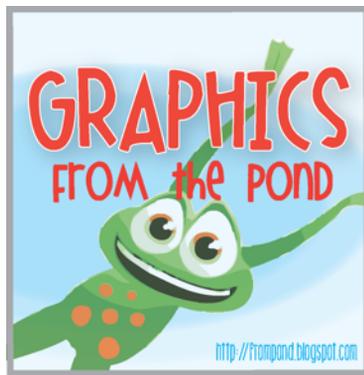


# Acknowledgements

## Fonts



## Borders/ Digital Paper



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