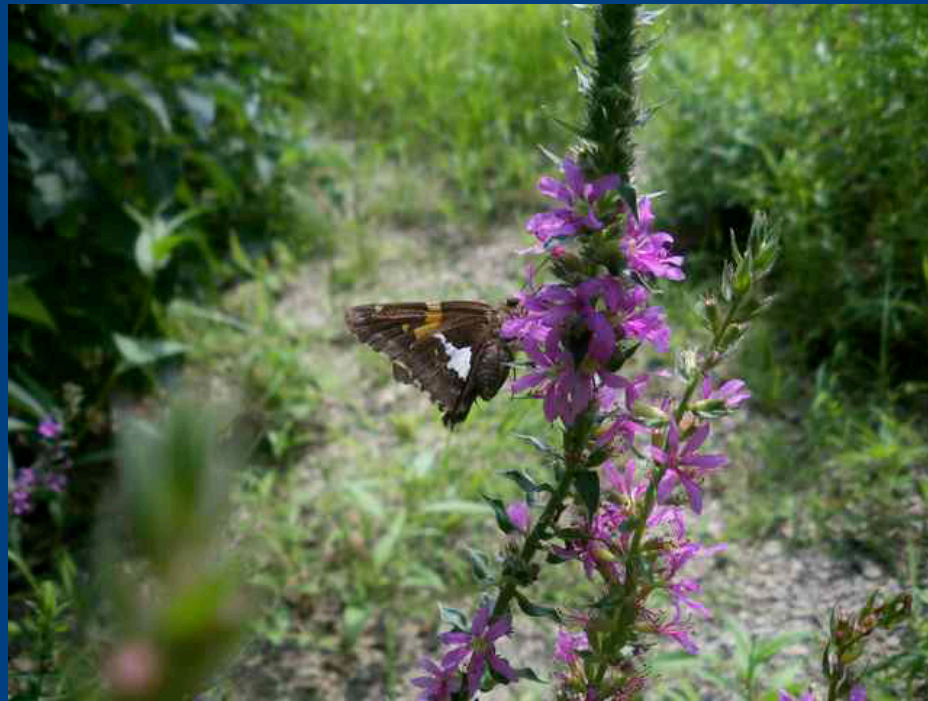


# Writing a Summary of Nonfiction



# Essential Questions

Let's refresh our memories!

- What is a summary?
- What makes a good summary?
- How can I write a summary of nonfiction?



# What makes a good summary?

Here are four basic rules for writing a summary of nonfiction:

- Include the important ideas from the text
- Put ideas in your own words
- Leave out little details and repeated information
- Use the text structure of the text

# Include important ideas from the text



Many butterflies depend on certain plants to survive. As adults, butterflies drink nectar. But caterpillars eat leaves. Some caterpillars only eat the leaves of specific plants. Monarch caterpillars, for example, eat only milkweed.

If butterflies cannot find the food source they need for their eggs, the next generation will not survive. When habitats are changed, such as when wetlands are drained or forests are cleared, butterfly populations may drop dramatically. According to the Xerxes Society, an invertebrate conservation group, over 50 kinds of U.S. butterflies are at risk.

Volunteer readers?

# Which ideas are important in this text?

Even though you might have some personal connection with some of the ideas, you need to think about what's important to the author. Look for the topic sentences and big ideas.

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# Finding important ideas

- What strategies do you use to find important ideas in a text? Poll Patrol!
- Why do you think this is important for summarizing?

# What makes a good summary?

- Include the important ideas from the text
- Put ideas in your own words
- Leave out little details and repeated information
- Use the text structure of the text

# This concludes today's lesson

Please complete the exit ticket in Nearpod on your own. Once I have validated your answer, you are free to leave. Good work today!



# Putting ideas in your own words

- Putting ideas in your own words is also called *paraphrasing*
- Instead of just copying down the author's words, we need to use our own words



# Putting ideas in your own words

Can you paraphrase this sentence from the text?

Many butterflies depend on certain plants to survive.

Poll patrol! Remember, full participation  
= game day!

# Putting ideas in your own words

Hint: Try using synonyms for important words

Many butterflies *depend on* certain plants to *survive*

# Putting ideas in your own words

Hint: Try changing the order of ideas

Many butterflies depend on certain  
plants to survive

# Paraphrasing

There are some words that you can't change when you paraphrase. These key words are the important words from the passage.



For example, in the passage that we read, the words butterfly and caterpillar cannot be replaced

# Trivial Details

Small details can be called “trivial details”—they might be interesting, but are not important to the main ideas of the passage

We do not need to include these small details in summaries

# What makes a good summary?

- Include the important ideas from the text
- Put ideas in your own words
- Leave out little details and repeated information

# Now, it's your turn!

Look back at the butterfly text. Can you write a summary?

