

# Strategies for Reading Success

## Finding the main idea

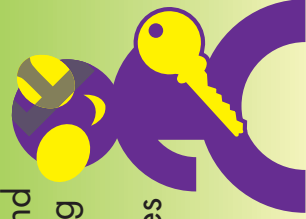


**Every reading passage has a main idea.**

- The main idea is often found in the first paragraph or in the title of the passage.

**Every paragraph has a main idea.**

- Sometimes the main idea is found in the first sentence.
- Sometimes the main idea is found in the last sentence.
- Sometimes it isn't in one sentence! You have to find the main idea by thinking about an idea that connects all the sentences in the paragraph.



## Recalling facts and details



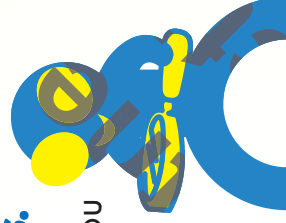
**Sentences that help explain the main idea are facts and details.**

- Facts and details help you explain the main idea more fully.
- Facts and details explain *who, what, when, where, why and how?*
- Facts and details

- describe a person, place or thing.

- help you picture where the story takes place.

- tell you how to do something.



## Understanding sequence



**The order in which things happen is called *sequence*.**

- Many stories are told in the order that events happen.
- Some stories are not told in order. Some start with the end or the middle first.
- Look for words like *first, next, then, last, finally, before, after*. These often give you clues about the sequence.

- Other clues include the time of day, the day of the week, the month or the season.

