

Small Group Strategy: Differentiation by Learning Preference – Choice Boards

Options	Description
Summarize and Draw	Read a text and write a summary, then create a visual representation of the main idea.
Main Idea Match-Up	Match key details to their corresponding main ideas in a text using a graphic organizer.
Main Idea Detective	Read a short passage and identify the main idea by underlining it and writing a sentence about it.
Main Idea Web	Create a web graphic organizer to identify the main idea and supporting details in a text.
Picture Perfect	Choose a picture book and write a paragraph explaining the main idea of the story.
Important Details	Select a text and identify three important details that support the main idea.
Main Idea Sort	Sort given sentences into categories based on their corresponding main ideas
Main Idea Timeline	Create a timeline of events from a nonfiction text and write a main idea statement about the text.
Main Idea Opinion	Write a paragraph expressing your opinion about the main idea of a text and support it with evidence from the text.

Small Group Activities:

Main Idea Collage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give each group a magazine or a set of printed articles. • Ask them to find articles or pictures that represent the main idea of a given topic. • Have students cut out the images and arrange them on a poster board. • In a short presentation, they should explain how each picture or article supports the main idea.
Story Sequencing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide each group with a short story or passage. • Ask students to work together to identify the main idea of the story. • Have them create a sequence of key events that support the main idea. • Encourage them to use their own words to recount and paraphrase each event.
Text Mapping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide each group with a short informational text. • Have students create a visual map that includes the main idea at the center and key details branching out. • Encourage them to use words and drawings to represent each detail and explain how it relates to the main idea.
Reader's Theatre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choose a short play or script that conveys a clear main idea. • Assign roles to each group member and have them perform the play. • After the performance, discuss how each character and scene contribute to the main idea.
Sentence Sort	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare a set of sentences related to a specific topic. • Ask students to work together to sort the sentences into two groups: those that contribute to the main idea and those that do not. • Encourage them to explain their choices and justify why certain sentences support the main idea
Picture Book Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide each group with a picture book. • Ask them to identify the main idea of the book and select key details from the illustrations and text. • Have students present their findings to the class, explaining how the pictures and words work together to convey the main idea.