Small Group Strategy:

Differentiation by Learning Preference – Choice Boards

**Small Group Choice Board Samples**

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| **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:**

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| **Main Idea Collage** | * 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.
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| **Story Sequencing** | * 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.
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| **Text Mapping** | * 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.
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| **Reader’s Theatre** | * 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.
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| **Sentence Sort** | * 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
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| **Picture Book Analysis** | * 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.
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