

## Teaching Notes

The goal of RI.5.2 is for students to learn how to determine two or more main ideas of a text and explain how they are supported by key details. Teachers can use students' prior knowledge of main ideas and supporting details to meet this standard. Teachers can emphasize in this module that many informational texts contain more than one main idea. The following information contains ideas that teachers can incorporate into their classroom as well as additional resources to peruse and integrate into instruction as appropriate.

### Activities

1. Provide pairs of students with an informational article. Ask students to read the article. One student will go first, identifying a main idea and supporting details. The second student will then have to determine a different main idea and supporting details. Students can continue switching if there are additional main ideas in the article.
2. Provide pairs of students with an informational article. Have one student identify the main ideas and the other student determine the supporting details for each main idea.

### Additional Resources

Consider these additional resources when teaching RI.5.2:

- **“Differentiating Instruction: Finding the Main Idea and Supporting Details in Informational Texts”**: This resource contains a lesson plan on teaching main idea and supporting details for informational texts:  
<http://www.cpalms.org/Public/PreviewResourceLesson/Preview/50863>
- **“Common Core Teaching and Learning Strategies”**: Page 52 of this PDF from the Illinois State Board of Education gives strategies, lesson suggestions, and formative assessment suggestions for teaching to this standard:  
[http://www.isbe.net/common\\_core/pdf/ela-teach-strat-read-text-k-5.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/common_core/pdf/ela-teach-strat-read-text-k-5.pdf)
- **“Identifying Texts Worth Reading”**: This video covers the importance of selecting texts that will create rich discussions among students. Selecting an appropriate informational text is important for meeting this standard and having students succeed while completing this module:  
<https://www.teachingchannel.org/videos/identify-texts-worth-reading-parcc>
- **“Determine the Main Idea, Stated or Implied”**: This PDF provides instruction on determining a main idea and includes graphic organizers for main idea and key details:  
<http://www.palmbeachschools.org/multicultural/documents/FCATMainIdea.pdf>