

Topic Detectives

Listen to short texts, find the main topic, and retell key details.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.1.2 "Identify the main topic and retell key details of a text."

NAME _____

DATE _____

Teacher: this page is run aloud. The script and answers are on the guide page.

1 MAIN TOPIC _____

a	plants	rain	birds
b	honey	bees	flowers
c	night	cats	owls

2 KEY DETAILS _____

first	•	•	hop
next	•	•	eggs
last	•	•	legs

HOW TO RUN THIS PAGE

Read each short text aloud twice before students mark the page. Students show the main topic by circling a word, then retell important details by matching them to the time words.

Students never read directions on this sheet. Read each part's script aloud, then each prompt, giving think time before students mark.

PART 1 • MAIN TOPIC

SAY “I will read each tiny text two times. After each text, I will read the three words in the row. Listen for what the text is mostly about, then circle that word.”

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	A plant needs sun, water, and air to grow. The words say plants, rain, birds. What is this text mostly about? Circle the word.	plants
b	Bees fly from flower to flower. They carry pollen and make honey. The words say honey, bees, flowers. What is this text mostly about? Circle the word.	bees
c	Owls hunt at night. Their sharp eyes help them find food. The words say night, cats, owls. What is this text mostly about? Circle the word.	owls

PART 2 • KEY DETAILS

SAY “Listen as I read this text two times: Frogs begin as eggs. Next, tadpoles grow legs. Last, adult frogs can hop. The left words say first, next, last. The right words say eggs, legs, hop. Which detail goes with each time word? Draw a line to match them.”

- **first** matches **eggs**
- **next** matches **legs**
- **last** matches **hop**

WHAT TO ACCEPT

Main Topic answers are plants, bees, and owls. Key Details lines are first to eggs, next to legs, and last to hop.