

Main idea and supporting details

Grade 2 Comprehension Worksheet

The **main idea** is what the story is mostly about.

The **supporting details** are small pieces of information that help explain the main idea.

Read the story and think about the main idea:

Jackson is afraid of the dark. At bedtime, he doesn't like turning off his lights. When the room gets dark, it feels big and scary. It doesn't seem like it's his room anymore! All Jackson can see is shadows, and Jackson worries about what might be hiding in them. His chair looks like a monster, and his pile of clothes looks like a ghost! Even though he knows it's just his things, the dark makes everything look different. He tries to tell himself it's nothing, but it still feels scary.



At night, little noises sound much louder to Jackson. The creak of his closet door makes him freeze under his blanket. He hears the wind blowing outside, and it sounds like people. Sometimes, tree branches tap on his window. His heart beats fast, and he pulls his blanket up to his chin. Jackson wishes the noises would stop and that the room would feel normal again.

Tonight, Jackson's mom gave him something new: a nightlight! The nightlight is shaped like a soccer ball. It glows in the corner of his room. Jackson still feels nervous, but he's glad to have a little bit of light. He squeezes his stuffed bear. Even though he still feels scared, he tries his best to also be brave.



Then answer the questions:

1. What is the **main idea** of this story?
 - a. Jackson is tired.
 - b. It is stormy outside.
 - c. Jackson is afraid of the dark.

2. Which **detail** helps explain the main idea?
 - a. Jackson's room feels scary when the lights are off.
 - b. Jackson's room has a closet.
 - c. Jackson's nightlight is shaped like a soccer ball.

3. What is another **detail** that explains the main idea?
 - a. Jackson has a stuffed bear.
 - b. Jackson's mom gave him a small nightlight to help him feel better.
 - c. Jackson sleeps under a blanket.

4. What is one detail from the story that does **not** help explain the main idea?

.Answers

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 - a. Jackson is tired.
 - b. It is stormy outside.
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 - a. Jackson has a stuffed bear.
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4. What is one detail from the story that does **not** help explain the main idea?

Answers will vary.