

Name _____

Main Idea and Details

- The **main idea** is the most important idea about the topic.
- **Details** are small pieces of information that tell more about the main idea.

Directions Read the following passage. Then answer the questions below.

Louis Armstrong is remembered as the greatest trumpeter in jazz history. He grew up in New Orleans and got to know many leading jazz musicians there. As a young man, he played the trumpet in marching bands. In 1922, he had the opportunity to play and record with King Oliver’s band in Chicago. Before Armstrong, the trumpet was not a solo instrument. It supported the band as a

whole. Armstrong changed this. He was able to create solo pieces for the trumpet that the band supported. Later in his career, he starred in films and performed as a comedian. He also sang. He made many jazz recordings. Some of the songs he’s most famous for are “Hello, Dolly!,” “Goldfinger,” and “What a Wonderful World.”

1. What is the topic of this passage?

2. What is the main idea of the passage?

3. What is one important detail that supports the main idea?

4. What is another detail that supports the main idea?

5. On a separate piece of paper, create a graphic organizer to show the main idea and details in this passage.

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Home Activity Your child read a short passage and identified the main idea and details. Read a magazine article about a musician with your child. Together, create a graphic organizer to show the main idea and supporting details in the article.