

# Summarize

Summarizing the most important ideas in an expository text helps you understand the overall point the author is making. As you reread “Researcher to the Rescue,” identify key ideas about Dr. Mignucci’s work and use your own words to summarize them.



## Find Text Evidence

You may not be sure how to summarize the section “Manatee Airlift” on page 411 of “Researcher to the Rescue.”

page 411

### Manatee Airlift

On a sunny December day, Dr. Antonio Mignucci is in Florida to keep careful watch as a dozen crew members lift an 840-pound manatee into the cargo hold of a National Guard plane. The scene is certainly unusual, but Dr. Mignucci has learned that saving marine mammals requires uncommon partnerships. Today’s team of scientists and military personnel don’t mind that their clothes are **saturated** with seawater. They know their unique collaboration is helping to save a life.

On the aircraft, everyone calls the massive six-year-old manatee “UPC” because the wounds he received when struck by a boat resemble the bar codes on store items. When they reach the Puerto Rico Manatee Conservation Center, Dr. Mignucci renames UPC Guacara, after the river where the animal was stranded. But Guacara will get more than an **alternative** name. He will also take on the role of surrogate parent to younger manatees recovering at the Center.



Transporting a manatee for treatment.

*I read details about flying a manatee to Puerto Rico, the diet and habitats of manatees, and the impact of Guacara’s injuries on his health. I can summarize this section by saying that Dr. Mignucci and others brought an injured manatee to a place where options for treatment are optimal.*

## Your Turn

COLLABORATE



In what ways does Dr. Mignucci collaborate with others in order to study and help sea mammals? Reread the rest of “Researcher to the Rescue.” Then summarize each section in your own words.

# Main Idea and Key Details

After you have identified key details in a passage of expository text, you may not be able to find a sentence that directly states how they are related. In a case like this, use what the key details have in common to determine the main idea of the passage.



## Find Text Evidence

*If I can't find a sentence stating the main idea for the important details I identified in "Joining Forces" on page 412, I can think of a central idea that expresses something about all the details.*

### Main Idea

Dr. Mignucci collaborates with many different partners to help sea mammals.

### Detail

Mignucci worked with an organization in the United Kingdom to establish that monk seals are extinct.

### Detail

Mignucci and the Georgia Aquarium share information about animal care.

### Detail

A microchip company helped Mignucci make a manatee thermometer.

What idea connects all the details?

## Your Turn

COLLABORATE



Reread the section "Singing for Support." Is the main idea stated or unstated? What is the main idea of the section?

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# Expository

“Researcher to the Rescue” is an expository text about sea mammal research.

An **Expository** text:

- May use technical terms to explain scientific ideas
- May include a flowchart to describe steps in a process



## Find Text Evidence

*I can tell that “Researcher to the Rescue” is an expository text because it explains some of the steps researchers are taking together to rescue and rehabilitate endangered sea mammals.*

page 412

**Joining Forces**

Manatees are just one focus of Dr. Mignucci’s work. He investigates a wide variety of marine animals. No matter what he’s studying, however, he considers collaboration to be an essential part of effective research. Working with the Seal Conservation Society of the United Kingdom, Dr. Mignucci coordinated an investigation to test the **hypothesis** that the Caribbean monk seal is extinct. This seal once lived in the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea. Several unconfirmed sightings suggested that a few members of this species might still be alive. The combined research team helped to prove that those sightings almost certainly **correspond** with a different species, the hooded seal. Regrettably, they concluded that the Caribbean monk seal truly is extinct.

Partnerships also allow researchers to share information and expand the impact of their work. In 2010, the Manatee Conservation Center joined forces with the Georgia Aquarium in Atlanta, the world’s largest. These two centers now have regular dialogues and share their knowledge of animal care, veterinary procedures, and water-quality monitoring.

Collaboration has also helped Dr. Mignucci solve some unusual problems. It is important for veterinarians at the Center to get accurate internal temperature measurements, but manatees have large molars and chew on anything you put in their mouths. So oral thermometers don’t work. Dr. Mignucci sought help from a company that specializes in making animal tracking devices. The company donated microchips about the size of a grain of rice.

412

## Text Features

**Technical Terms** Technical terms are needed to explain concepts specific to the subject matter.

**Flowchart** A flowchart shows visually how the steps in a process are related.

COLLABORATE



## Your Turn

Find a technical term used to describe a scientific concept in “Researcher to the Rescue.” Tell how the text defines the term. Then explain what you learned from the flowchart.

# Context Clues

When you come across an unfamiliar or multiple-meaning word, you can compare it to surrounding words. These context clues can help you figure out the word's meaning.



## Find Text Evidence

*I wasn't sure what the word surrogate means on page 411 of "Researcher to the Rescue." When I reread the paragraph, I compared surrogate to the words alternative, role, and parent. In this context, surrogate must be an adjective that means "other" or "substitute."*

But Guacara will get more than an alternative name. He will also take on the role of surrogate parent to younger manatees recovering at the Center.

## Your Turn

COLLABORATE



Make comparisons with surrounding words to determine the meanings of the following words from "Researcher to the Rescue."

**marine**, page 411

**collaboration**, page 411

**rehabilitated**, page 413



# Readers to . . .

Writers of expository texts may organize information according to the sequence of steps in a process. Explaining a sequence helps readers understand how, and sometimes why, something was done. Reread this excerpt from “Researcher to the Rescue.”

## Expert Model

### Sequence

Identify the main steps in the **sequence**. How do the steps clarify a point the author is making?

Collaboration has also helped Dr. Mignucci solve some unusual problems. It is important for veterinarians at the Center to get accurate internal temperature measurements, but manatees have large molars and chew on anything you put in their mouths. So oral thermometers don't work. Dr. Mignucci sought help from a company that specializes in making animal tracking devices. The company donated microchips about the size of a grain of rice. Once a chip is implanted, it can be scanned with a pocket reader to obtain the manatee's body temperature.



# Writers



Jed wrote about solving a problem he was having with his puppy. Read Jed's revisions.

## Editing Marks

- ^ Add
- ^ Add a comma
- ✂ Take out
- sp Check spelling
- / Make a lowercase letter

## Grammar Handbook

**Negatives** See page 470.

### Student Model

## A Puppy Problem

I knew dogs love chewing shoes, but I didn't expect my puppy Alf to start biting my laces. I said, "No, boy." But he ~~would not stop~~ <sup>scarcely</sup> ~~stop~~ <sup>ped</sup> nipping. I needed a solution. <sup>First,</sup> I tried tying my shoes in my bedroom. But Alf would bark and scratch at my door. <sup>Then,</sup> I told him to sit, but he <sup>hardly</sup> sat for a second. Nothing ~~wouldn't~~ work! Finally, I bought Alf a toy shoe with laces to play with when I was tying mine.

## Your Turn

COLLABORATE



- How did Jed clarify the sequence of the steps he took?
- Explain why he changed the word *wouldn't*.
- Tell how revisions improved his writing.

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