

Summarize It!

Cross-Curricular Focus: Study Skills



You have probably written a **summary** after the **completion** of a book you have read. You may have told about the characters. You may have told about the setting. You probably told about how a **problem** was **solved**. But did you know that summarizing is not just for stories? You can use your summarizing skills to be better prepared in all your subjects.

Some students have a hard time with science and social studies because there are lots of new words. There is also a lot of information to remember. Research shows that just writing things down will help you remember them. It works even if you never read what you wrote again. Wow! That's a great reason for taking notes.

Did you know that taking notes is summarizing? When you read your science and social studies textbooks, keep a notebook with lined paper close to you. Most textbooks are divided into sections that have headings. Headings are like titles in darker letters. Write down the heading of each section before you read the section. As you read, jot down the big ideas. Look for new words. You can also use your summary to study!

Name: _____

Answer the following questions based on the reading passage. Don't forget to go back to the passage whenever necessary to find or confirm your answers.

1) Why are science and social studies hard for some people?

2) What does research say about writing things down?

3) What is a heading in your textbook?

4) Based on the other information in the last paragraph, what do the words "jot down" mean?

5) What can you use when you study?

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Name: Key

Answer the following questions based on the reading passage. Don't forget to go back to the passage whenever necessary to find or confirm your answers.

Actual wording of answers may vary.

1) Why are science and social studies hard for some people?

There are a lot of new words and a lot of information.

2) What does research say about writing things down?

It helps you remember things.

3) What is a heading in your textbook?

It is like a title with darker letters.

4) Based on the other information in the last paragraph, what do the words "jot down" mean?

write

5) What can you use when you study?

your summary