

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### **Main Idea Practice Sheet**

Read each paragraph and answer the questions following each paragraph.

#### **Planets in the Solar System**

There are eight planets in the Solar System, and each one is very different. Some planets, like Jupiter and Saturn are very large. Others, like Mercury and Mars are smaller. Jupiter has moons that are larger than Mercury. The planets also have different atmospheres. Uranus, Jupiter and Saturn have atmospheres of hydrogen and helium. The atmosphere on Venus is made up of carbon dioxide. Earth has a nitrogen and oxygen atmosphere. Neptune's atmosphere is mostly hydrogen. The planets also have different temperatures. Uranus is the coldest and Venus is the hottest.

1. Write the main idea of the paragraph in your own words.

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2. Write two supporting details for the main idea.

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#### **Dolphins**

Dolphins are mammals that live in the ocean. Mammals are different than fish, reptiles or birds. As a mammal, dolphins breathe oxygen, even though they live in water. Because they are mammals, a dolphin mother gives birth to a live baby, unlike reptiles and birds who lay eggs. A dolphin mother also feeds her baby milk like other mammals.

1. Write the main idea of the paragraph in your own words.

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2. Write two supporting details for the main idea.

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

### **Main Idea Practice Sheet**

Each paragraph is followed by four statements. Select the statement that best expresses the main idea. Circle the letter of that statement.

#### **Coyotes**

There is a common belief that while the dog is man's best friend, the coyote is his worst enemy. The bad reputation of the coyote traces back to his fondness for small animals; he hunts at night and is particularly destructive to sheep, young pigs, and poultry. Yet it is sometimes wise to encourage coyotes. Provided valuable farm animals are protected, the coyote will often free the property of other animals, like rabbits, which are ruinous to crops and certain trees. He is especially beneficial in keeping down the rodent population. Where coyotes have been allowed to do their work without harassment, ranchers and fruit growers have found them so valuable that they would no more shoot them than they would shoot their dogs.

- a. Under certain conditions the coyote is helpful to man.
- b. The coyote is feared because of his fondness for small animals.
- c. Modern ranchers would no sooner shoot coyotes than they would shoot dogs.
- d. The coyote usually prefers rabbits and other rodents to sheep and poultry.

#### **Taxes**

People often refer to taxes in terms of their being much too high. In reality, they are probably even higher than you think, because in addition to the federal income tax we are now studying, there are many other Federal, State, and local taxes, including sales taxes, inheritance taxes, state income taxes, personal property taxes, real estate taxes, and others. These are just some of the most obvious ones.

- a. Taxes are much too high.
- b. We pay more taxes than we may realize.
- c. Inheritance taxes and real estate taxes are unfair.
- d. Some taxes are hidden.