


Before the Lesson Begins

Have students sit in differentiated ability pairs.

A. Focus (1 minute)

Remind students about what they learned the day before.

Remind students about the characteristics of good summaries.

 *Yesterday you learned that summarizing is like taking a snapshot of a dig site. Just as the snapshot of the dig site gives the archaeologist a picture of important information, a summary gives a snapshot of the important information in a text.*

Q. *Who can remember the three main features of a good summary?*

A. (Write these on the board as they are given.)


- Short
- Important information
- In your own words

B. Guide (10 minutes)

Guide the class in summarizing information in an expository text.

1. Tell students they are going to read a passage about hail. Invite students to share what they know about hail, and briefly discuss any experiences you or they have had with it.
2. Ask students to independently read the section on pages 48-50 of *Twisters*, entitled “Hail.” When they have finished, students should turn to page 12 in their Activity Books. This page has three different summaries for the section entitled “Hail.” Ask students to read the summaries and discuss with their partner which one is best. They should circle the number of the best summary. Circulate around the room, and help students as needed.

Activity Book, p. 12

“Hail” 

Circle the number of the paragraph that is a good summary for the “Hail” section in *Twisters*. Explain why each paragraph is a good summary or poor summary.

SUMMARY	EXPLANATION
<p>1. When water from a storm cloud freezes, it is called hail or hailstones. Hailstones form when an updraft carries a water droplet high inside a tall cloud where the air near the top can be very cold. When the droplet reaches the cold air, it freezes and becomes a tiny hailstone. As the hailstone falls back through the damp cloud, it collects moisture and gets caught in another updraft. The layer of moisture freezes and the hailstone gets bigger. This can happen many times, causing the hailstone to get very large. When the hailstone gets too large to stay in the air, it falls to the Earth. Hailstones come in all sizes from small as blueberries to bigger than softballs. Hailstones can cause lots of damage.</p>	<p><i>There are too many details in this summary. The size of hailstones does not need to be included. The explanation of how a hailstone gets bigger could be shorter.</i></p>
<p>2. Hailstones are formed when droplets of water are carried in updrafts in a storm cloud where it's cold, causing them to freeze. Each time they are pulled into the updraft, they increase in size until they become too heavy and fall to the ground. Hailstones can cause great damage, depending on their size.</p>	<p><i>Most important points are included: how hailstones form, why they fall, and they can be damaging.</i></p>
<p>3. Hailstones can cause great damage. They can destroy crops, dent cars, and kill small animals. Some have even killed people!</p>	<p><i>Important points not included, too short. Unimportant details included.</i></p>

12
DIGGING READING UNIT 4, WEEK 2, Day 2