

Sheet 12: Summarising Paragraphs

Worked example:

Read this: 'Pip the caterpillar spent all morning carefully choosing the perfect leaves. He crawled from one branch to another, inspecting the colours and textures. Finally, he found a bright green leaf and settled down to enjoy his lunch.' What is the summary?

Answer: Pip spent his morning searching for the perfect leaf to eat.

- Read about Nova: 'Nova the owl sat high in the oak tree. She adjusted her feathers and peered through her telescope. She watched the stars twinkle in the night sky, taking notes on how they moved in a line.' Write a one-sentence summary.
- Read about Max: 'Max the monkey found a pile of shiny pebbles. He sorted them into groups of five. He counted them three times to make sure he had exactly twenty. He felt very proud of his organised collection.' Write a one-sentence summary.
- Read about Zara: 'Zara the zebra dipped her brush into the blue paint. She swirled it across the canvas to make waves. Then, she added dots of yellow to look like sunlight dancing on the water.' Write a one-sentence summary.
- Read about Finn: 'Finn the dolphin swam through the coral reef. He used his map to find the hidden cave. Once he arrived, he carefully marked the location in his waterproof notebook.' Write a one-sentence summary.
- Read about Bea: 'Bea the bee flew from flower to flower. She landed on a bright red poppy and collected golden pollen. She buzzed happily as she filled her baskets to take back to the hive.' Write a one-sentence summary.

Self-check: Check your sentences: Did you include the main character and what they were doing without adding too many small details?

Ready for next: Once you can summarise what a character is doing, you are ready to look deeper at why they are doing it!