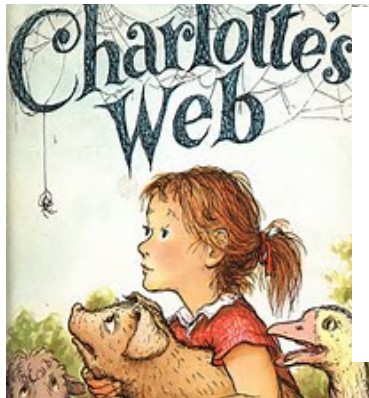


# Summarizing Key Details

## Chapter 1 Charlotte's Web



### Essential Questions

- What is summarizing?
- What are key details?
- How to use critical thinking when reading to summarize?

### Key Learning Areas

Reading

Comprehension

### Concepts Taught

Summarizing & Details

### Target Age

8 – 10 Year Olds

### Duration

1 x 60 minute Session

### You will need:

Charlotte's Web Book

Summarizing Sheet



### Learning Intention / Overview

This activity will allow students to develop a better understanding of summarizing using key details. A summary is a brief description of the events in a text or chapter. Key details pertain to the information that is most important in understanding a text. These two skills combined help students in gaining insight about a story or informational piece.

### Methods / Teaching Strategies

- Group Reading and Discussion
- Individual Task
- Personalized Learning

### Assessment of Learning

- Summarizing Sheet(provided)
- Written response
- Demonstrated an understanding of right and wrong.

### How might you customize or alter this lesson?

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### Online Resources:

- <http://edgalaxy.com/educational-quotes>
- <http://edgalaxy.com/classroom-posters-charts/2013/9/10/14-educational-quotes-posters>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iPnYfwLOW84>

# Teaching Instructions

Review with students that a summary is a brief explanation of what has taken place in a reading selection. A summary should include beginning, middle, and ending details that are important from the reading.

Summarize with students what they did to prepare for school this morning.

Examples would be get out of bed, eat breakfast, shower, get dressed, prepare lunch, gather school supplies such as backpack and books, and ride to school. Each person may or may not have done all the things listed but ensure that all listed are relevant to preparing for school.

When it appears that the majority of the class understands the review of summarizing review what a detail is by referring back to listed things for preparing for school.

A detail is information that is important in a text. Usually these details drive the next set of events to occur. For example, if you didn't get out of bed first to prepare for school the rest of the events would not have happened.

Read chapter 1 of Charlotte's Web. This can be done chorally with entire class, in small peer groups, partner reading, or individually by students.

Distribute summarizing sheet to students for independent work.



# Chapter 1 Summary

In chapter 1 of Charlotte’s Web, Fern and her father have very different feelings concerning Wilbur. On the lines below write a brief summary detailing what happens? (Remember to include events from the beginning, middle, and end of the chapter.)

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Based on the summary you have written who do you agree with on what should have happened to Wilbur, Mr. Arable or Fern? Why or why not?

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## CHAPTER 1 SUMMARY

### ANSWER SHEET

In chapter 1 of *Charlotte's Web*, Fern and her father have very different feelings concerning Wilbur. On the lines below write a brief summary detailing what happens? (Remember to include events from the beginning, middle, and end of the chapter.) **ANSWERS WILL VARY**

As fern and her mother sit down for breakfast, Fern notices her father carrying an ax. She becomes curious and asks her mother why her father needs an ax. Mrs. Arable explains that a litter of pigs had been born and there was a runt piglet that Mr. Arable was planning on killing. Fern goes running outside to stop her father. After some convincing, Mr. Arable agrees to let Fern keep the piglet.

**Based on the summary you have written who do you agree with on what should have happened to Wilbur, Mr. Arable or Fern? Why or why not? ANSWERS WILL VARY BUT EXAMPLES GIVE PERSPECTIVES FROM BOTH POINTS OF VIEW.**

I agree with Fern about the piglet. I think that all animals deserve a chance at life. Just because one is born small doesn't mean that animal is useless. Size isn't always the most important characteristic of an animal. Being an animal born small also doesn't mean it's owner can't find it useful and even love it. I liked how Fern used herself being born small to convince Mr. Arable to let Wilbur live.

I agree with Mr. Arable that the runt should have been killed. Farm animals have a job or purpose and a runt pig would not be much use as a worker or as a food source. It seems that Mr. Arable has had several dealings with piglets and knows what happens when a runt is born in a litter.