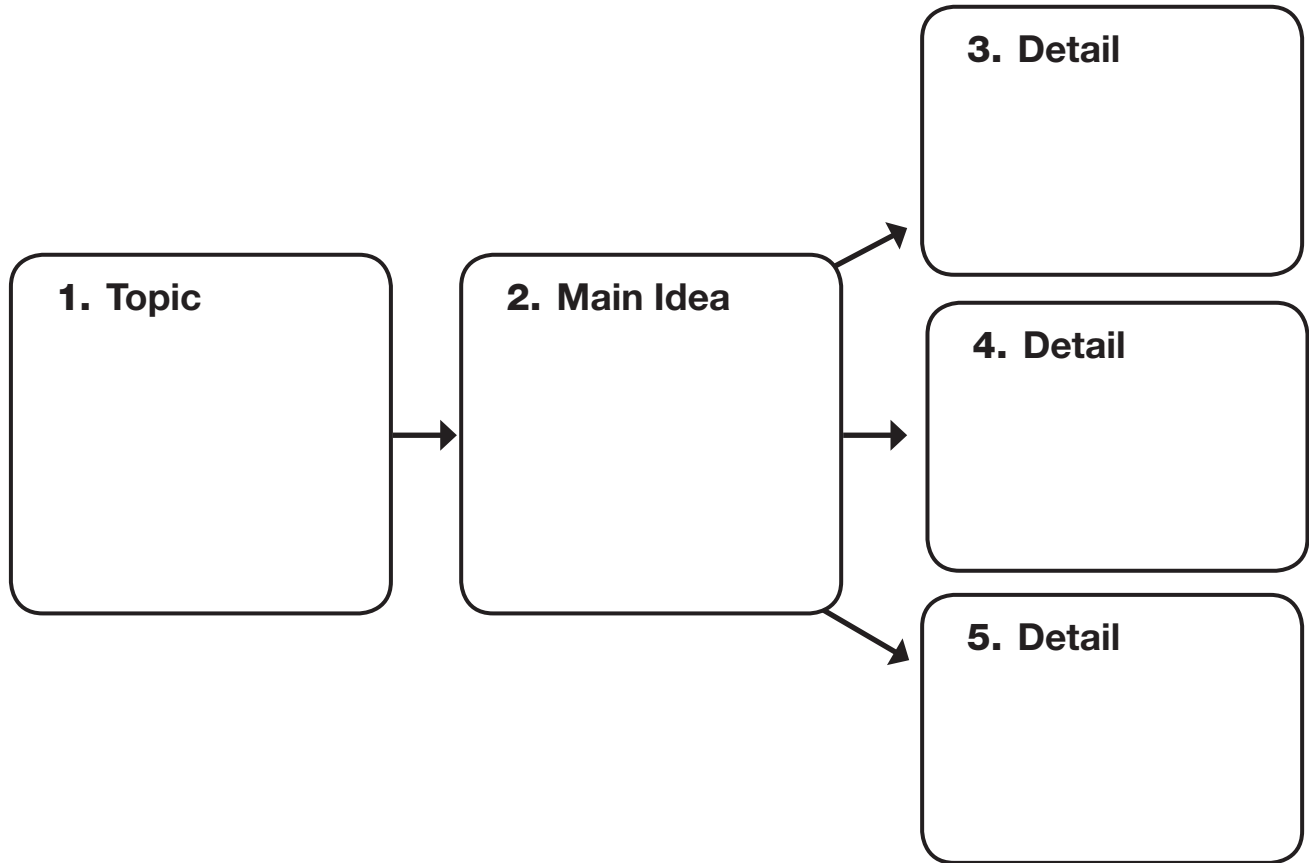


# Main Idea and Details

- The **topic** is what a piece of writing is all about.
- The **main idea** is the most important idea about the topic.
- **Details** are smaller pieces of information. They tell more about the main idea.

**Directions:** Read the following passage. Then complete the graphic organizer.

<p><b>B</b>ird watching is a good hobby. You don't need expensive equipment to get started. Look for a bird book at the library or at a used bookstore. You'll also need the right clothes. Be sure to wear comfortable shoes. Wear clothes that will protect you from the bright Sun. Finally, you'll want to keep a record of the birds</p>	<p>you see and tell when and where you see them. Some bird watchers call this record a "life list." A simple notebook will do. Once you have all your equipment, go out and find some birds. Watch carefully. You may be surprised to see things you've never noticed before.</p>
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**Home Activity** Your child identified the topic, main idea, and details in a passage. Watch a television show about nature together. Ask your child to make a graphic organizer like the one above to record information about the show.