Date _

Summary Writing: Big Ideas vs. Details

ANSWERS

V Big Ideas:

- Main characters (who the story is mostly about)
- Plot (what the main character does)
- Conflict (*the problem*)
- Resolution (the solution)

X Details:

- Descriptions
- Events that don't connect to the conflict or resolution
- Background information
- Minor characters

Directions: Read the story parts below and decide which ones are big ideas and which are details. Use the T-chart to sort them.

the first house was	three little pigs	it was a warm day in	the pigs built houses
made of straw		the countryside	for themselves
a big bad wolf kept blowing down the pigs' houses	the pigs had a lot of hair on their chins	the brick house had a chimney	the wolf couldn't blow down the brick house

Big Ideas:	Details:	
three little pigs	• the first house was made of straw	
the pigs built houses for themselves	• it was a warm day in the countryside	
 a big bad wolf kept blowing down the pigs' houses 	 the pigs had a lot of hair on their chins 	
• the wolf couldn't blow down the brick house	 the brick house had a chimney 	

Directions: Look at the four big ideas you listed above and fill in each of the circles below.

