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Writing a Nonfiction Summary: The Mysterious Squid

A summary is "short and sweet" and includes the most important ideas and information in a text. A good nonfiction summary focuses only on the important details and facts.

Tips:

Include the main idea.
Ignore the little details. → Pay attention to major facts.
Use key terms from the text.

Directions: Read the passage below and pay attention to the main ideas and important details about the topic. Use a highlighter or pencil to mark some of the key ideas on the text.

Did you know that the eyes of the colossal squid are larger than any other creature on Earth? The colossal squid is the largest type of squid. Not many of these creatures have been observed. This is what makes them mysterious.

Colossal squid are found in colder waters near Antarctica and New Zealand. These waters are very remote, or far away. This means humans rarely see the squid. They live in deeper waters. These creatures are difficult to observe.

It is not easy to observe the colossal squid in its natural setting. The colossal squid lives in a cold and deep habitat. Even with advanced technology, it is a difficult task to learn about these creatures.

This type of squid almost never comes to the surface of the ocean. Human interaction has been very limited. Scientists do not know much about the mysterious colossal squid.

Directions: Write a 3-4 sentence summary on the lines below.

Answers will vary

The colossal squid is a mysterious sea creature. It is the largest type of squid and lives in cold, deep ocean water. Humans have not interacted much with it, so we do not know many facts about the colossal squid.