Big Idea Summary

A summary is a short retelling of a story. It includes the big ideas from the story, not details.

✅ **Big Ideas:**	❌ **Details:**
• Main characters (*who the story is mostly about*) • Plot (*what the main character does*) • Conflict (*the problem*) • Resolution (*the solution*)	• Descriptions • Events that don't connect to the conflict or resolution • Background information • Minor characters

Directions: Read the short story below. Then answer the questions that follow.

     Jody is a young woman who absolutely adores dogs. She owns a papillon named Louie, a chihuahua named Isabella, and a Siberian husky named Koda. Every weekend she takes her dogs to the dog park where they love to run, play catch, and meet other dogs. When Jody took her pets to the park last Saturday, she almost lost poor little Louie. She was playing catch with Koda when she lost sight of Louie. In a panic, she started shouting his name and asked other dog owners if they saw her little papillon. After 30 minutes of searching and with the help of another dog owner, she finally found him at the entrance of the dog park near a small store that sells Louie's favorite treats. Jody was delighted when she found Louie and bought all three of her dogs their favorite treats.

Directions: Decide which underlined story parts are *big ideas* and which ones are *details*.

                                                                  Circle one

1. Jody   big idea   detail
2. they love to run, play catch, and meet other dogs   big idea   detail
3. Jody took her pets to the park   big idea   detail
4. she almost lost poor little Louie   big idea   detail
5. She was playing catch with Koda   big idea   detail
6. she finally found him   big idea   detail
7. she bought all three of her dogs their favorite treats   big idea   detail

Main Character Who is the story mostly about?	**Plot** What did the main character do?	**Conflict** What was the problem?	**Resolution** How was the problem solved?

Directions: Use the paragraph frame to write a three-sentence summary. You might have to take out or add some words so that the sentences make sense.

_____   _____.
(character)   (plot)

But, _____.
       (conflict)

Then, _____.
       (resolution)