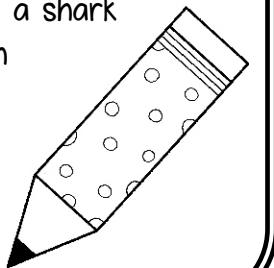


SUMMARIZE IT!

Summarize this paragraph in twelve words or less.

What would it be like to have teeth like a shark? A shark can have up to 3,000 teeth at one time. Shark teeth grow in rows, one behind another. Most sharks have five rows of teeth. When a shark loses a tooth, it is replaced by a tooth from the row behind it. I don't know about you, but I am glad that I don't have shark teeth!

1

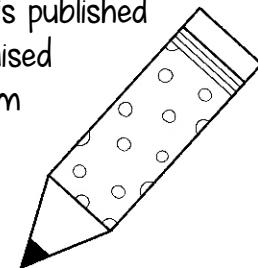


SUMMARIZE IT!

Summarize this paragraph in twelve words or less.

When Louis Braille was just three years old, he was in an accident that left him blind. When he was a teenager, Louis created a set of raised dots that blind people could use to read. In 1829, Louis published the first book using his system of raised dots, which is called the Braille system and is still used today.

2

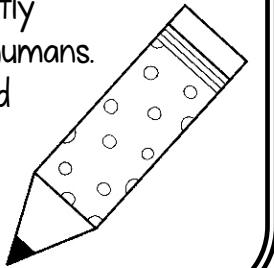


SUMMARIZE IT!

Summarize this paragraph in twelve words or less.

Even though Mars is our planetary neighbor, Earth and Mars do not have much in common. Mars is smaller than Earth and much, much colder. Not only that, the atmosphere on Mars is mostly carbon dioxide, which is poisonous to humans. There is also no water on Mars. Would you want to visit Mars?

3

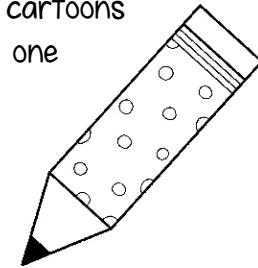


SUMMARIZE IT!

Summarize this paragraph in twelve words or less.

Mickey Mouse is much older than he looks! He was created by Walt Disney in 1928. His first public appearance was in a black and white cartoon called *Steamboat Willie*. At that time, most cartoons were still silent. *Steamboat Willie* was one of the first cartoons with sound.

4

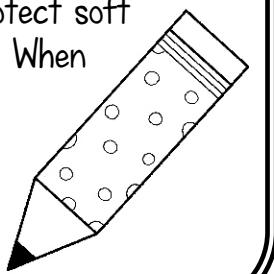


SUMMARIZE IT!

Summarize this paragraph in twelve words or less.

5

If you didn't have bones, you would be more like a beanbag than a person. Your bones have two main purposes. First, they give your body structure so you can stand and move. Second, they protect soft organs like your heart and your lungs. When you grow up, your body will have 206 bones to do these jobs.

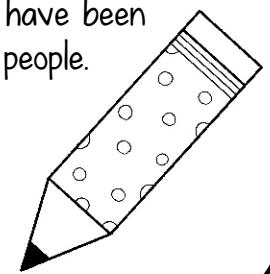


SUMMARIZE IT!

Summarize this paragraph in twelve words or less.

6

Dogs are not only good pets, they can also help solve crimes! Police dogs have been trained to help policemen and women do their jobs. For example, since dogs are good at picking up scents, some dogs have been trained to track criminals or missing people. They can also detect bombs and other explosives.

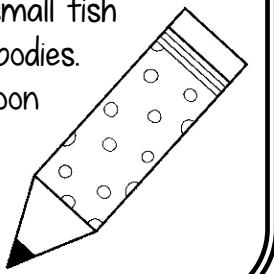


SUMMARIZE IT!

Summarize this paragraph in twelve words or less.

7

Not every animal has eyes. Blind cave fish don't need eyes because they live in total darkness. They live in lakes, pools, and rivers inside caves in Central America. Even though they cannot see, these small fish can detect light with a gland in their bodies. A blind cave fish will swim away as soon as it detects light.

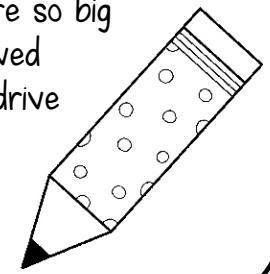


SUMMARIZE IT!

Summarize this paragraph in twelve words or less.

8

The tallest trees in the world are located in Northern California. Redwood tree can reach heights of 350 feet (107 m) or more. That is about as tall as a 35 story building! The trunks of these trees are so big that in some places, people have carved tunnels through them big enough to drive a car through!

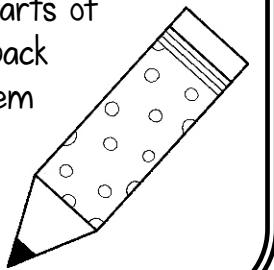


SUMMARIZE IT!

Summarize this paragraph in twelve words or less.

9

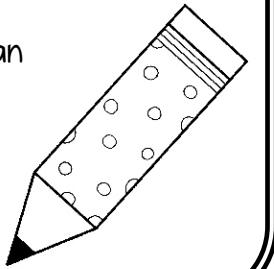
Unlike most other animals, snakes do not chew their food or even tear off mouth-sized chunks. Instead, they eat their food whole, often while it is still alive! Snakes can do this because the two parts of their jaws are not connected at the back the way that ours are. This allows them to open their mouths very wide.

**SUMMARIZE IT!**

Summarize this paragraph in twelve words or less.

11

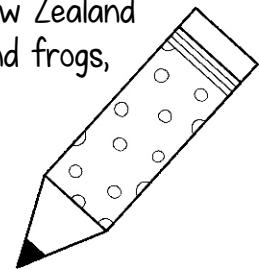
The Nile River in Africa is the longest river in the world. It is about 4,160 miles (6,670 km) long. The Nile River begins in Lake Victoria and flows through several countries before emptying into the Mediterranean Sea. The Nile River is an important source of water for these countries.

**SUMMARIZE IT!****SUMMARIZE IT!**

Summarize this paragraph in twelve words or less.

10

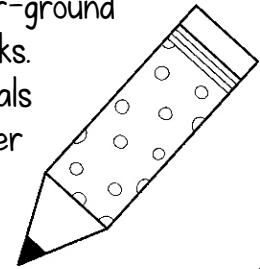
Did you know that only one kind of mammal is native to New Zealand? Until people brought in other mammals, bats were the only mammals to inhabit the island country. In addition to bats, New Zealand is home to several kinds of lizards and frogs, some very large insects, and many species of birds.

**SUMMARIZE IT!**

Summarize this paragraph in twelve words or less.

12

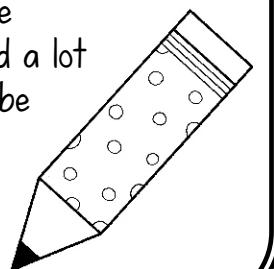
If you are in a desert during the day, you will probably not see many animals, but that doesn't mean they aren't there. Most desert animals protect themselves from the hot sun by burrowing under-ground or hiding in the crevices between rocks. When the sun goes down, these animals will come out to find food in the cooler night air.



SUMMARIZE IT!

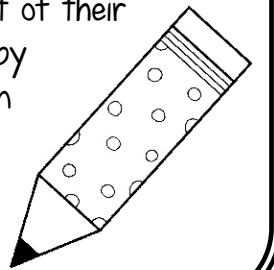
Summarize this paragraph in twelve words or less.

Capybaras are the largest rodents in the world! A Capybara is about four feet (30 cm) long and can weigh up to 100 pounds (50 kg). That makes it about the size of a large dog. Capybaras are semi-aquatic, which means they spend a lot of their time in the water. They can be found in the swamps and marshes of Central and South America.

13**SUMMARIZE IT!**

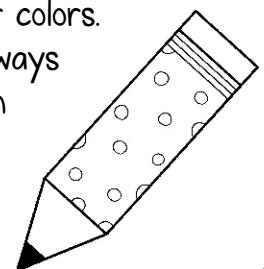
Summarize this paragraph in twelve words or less.

You probably know that seahorses are not really horses. In fact, a seahorse is a type of fish. Unlike most other fish, seahorses are not good swimmers. Instead of swimming, they spend most of their time anchored to sea grass or coral by their tails. From this position, they can use their long snouts to suck up plankton and other small bits of food.

15**SUMMARIZE IT!****SUMMARIZE IT!**

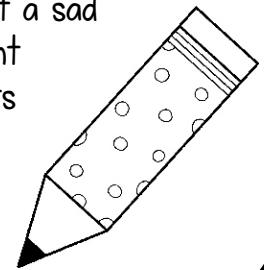
Summarize this paragraph in twelve words or less.

The pictures on your computer screen are made from millions of tiny dots of light called pixels. Each pixel contains three colors: red, blue, and green. Together, these three colors make all the other colors. The pixels are arranged in different ways to make the pictures that you see on your screen.

14**SUMMARIZE IT!**

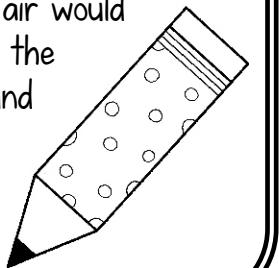
Summarize this paragraph in twelve words or less.

In Mexico, people celebrate El Dia de los Muertos, or The Day of the Dead on November 1 and 2. The Day of the Dead is a time to remember and honor ancestors who have died, but it is not a sad holiday. Instead, there are many bright decorations, parties, and special treats to eat.

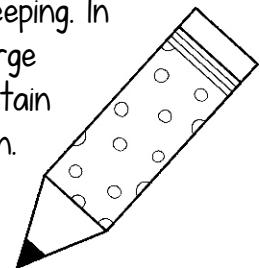
16

SUMMARIZE IT!**SUMMARIZE IT!****SUMMARIZE IT!****Summarize this paragraph in twelve words or less.**

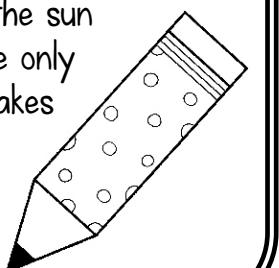
In 1971, Commander David Scott did an experiment on the Moon. He dropped a hammer and a feather at the same time. On Earth, the feather would fall more slowly than the hammer because the air would hold it up. However, there is no air on the Moon, so the two objects hit the ground at exactly the same time!

17**SUMMARIZE IT!****SUMMARIZE IT!****SUMMARIZE IT!****Summarize this paragraph in twelve words or less.**

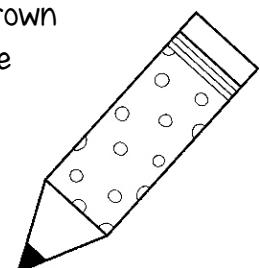
Snow Leopards live in the mountains of Central and South Asia. They have thick coats to help keep them warm. They also have long, bushy tails that they wrap around themselves when they are sleeping. In addition, snow leopards have extra large lungs to help them breathe the mountain air, which does not have much oxygen.

18**Summarize this paragraph in twelve words or less.**

Galapagos penguins are the only species of penguin that live near the equator. They stay cool by swimming in the cooler ocean currents during the day and returning to land only at night when the sun has gone down. Galapagos penguins are only about 18 inches (46 cm) tall, which makes them one of the smaller species of penguins.

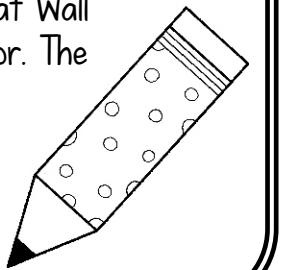
19**Summarize this paragraph in twelve words or less.**

A football is sometimes called a pigskin. That is because footballs used to be made from the bladders of pigs! Pig bladders can be blown up with air and are tough enough to handle being kicked and thrown without breaking. Today's footballs are made from rubber or cowhides.

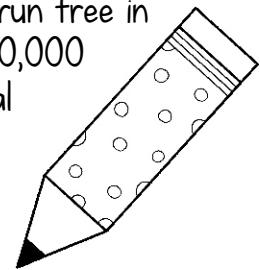
20

SUMMARIZE IT!**SUMMARIZE IT!****SUMMARIZE IT!****SUMMARIZE IT!****Summarize this paragraph in twelve words or less.**

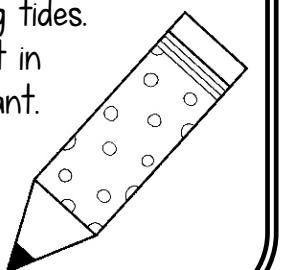
The Great Wall of China stretches about 5,500 miles (8,850 km) from Beijing into Central China. Even though it is a magnificent accomplishment, it is important to remember that the Great Wall was built almost entirely by slave labor. The wall is sometimes called the longest cemetery on Earth because over a million workers died during its construction.

21**SUMMARIZE IT!****SUMMARIZE IT!****SUMMARIZE IT!****SUMMARIZE IT!****Summarize this paragraph in twelve words or less.**

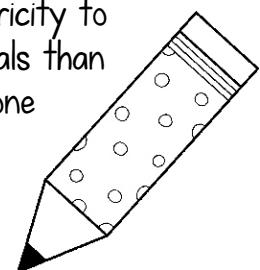
In the 1940s American beavers were brought to the island of Tierra del Fuego in Argentina. The beavers were bred for their fur, but when the fur business failed, the beavers were released to run free in the wild. By 1990, there were over 100,000 beavers on the island! With no natural predators, the beavers have been destroying forests at a rapid rate.

22**Summarize this paragraph in twelve words or less.**

Mangrove trees grow in estuaries where the fresh water from the mouth of a river meets the salt water from the ocean. Mangrove trees have strong roots that can withstand the changing tides. Their roots can also filter out the salt in the water so it can be used in the plant.

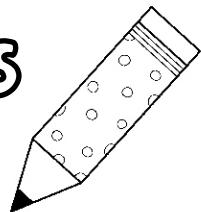
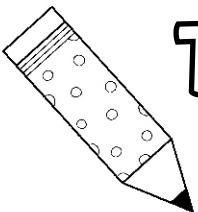
23**Summarize this paragraph in twelve words or less.**

It is important to recycle paper, bottles, cans, and plastic containers instead of throwing them away. Recycling keeps garbage out of landfills and saves electricity because it takes less electricity to make products from recycled materials than it does from scratch. Recycling just one soda can saves enough electricity to power a light bulb for 4 hours.

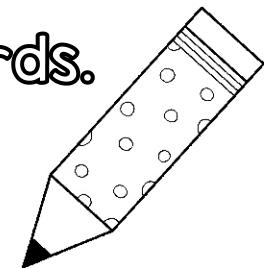
24

SUMMARIZE IT!

Task Cards



SUMMARIZE IT!
Shorter than the text.
Use your own words.
Main ideas only.



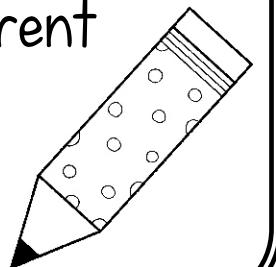
IT!

SUMMARIZE

Challenge Card #1

What is the main idea of
the paragraph?

Is the main idea different
than your summary?

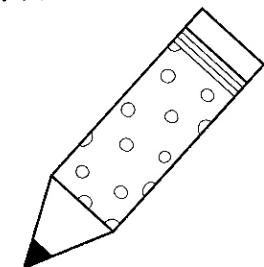


IT!

SUMMARIZE

Challenge Card #2

What is the most interesting
thing you learned from
this paragraph?



Name: _____

Date: _____

SUMMARIZE IT! TASK CARDS

Answer Sheet for Cards 1-12

Use this sheet to record your summaries. Put the number of words you used in the bubble at the end of each line. Remember, your summary must be twelve words or less!

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

11.

12.

Name: _____

Date: _____

SUMMARIZE IT! TASK CARDS

Answer Sheet for Cards 13 - 24

Use this sheet to record your summaries. Put the number of words you used in the bubble at the end of each line. Remember, your summary must be twelve words or less!

13.

14.

15.

16.

17.

18.

19.

20.

21.

22.

23.

24.

SUMMARIZE IT! TASK CARDS

Sample Answer Key for Cards 1-12

Here are some example summaries...

1. Sharks have thousands of teeth that grow in rows.
2. Louis Braille invented a system to help blind people read.
3. Mars is a small, cold planet with poisonous air.
4. Mickey Mouse first appeared in a black and white cartoon in 1928.
5. Bones give your body structure and protect your internal organs.
6. Police dogs have been trained to solve crimes by following scents.
7. Blind cave fish do not have eyes because they live in darkness.
8. Redwood trees in Northern California are the tallest trees in the world.
9. Snakes can open their mouths very wide to swallow their food whole.
10. Bats are the only mammals native to New Zealand.
11. The Nile River in Africa is over 4,000 miles long.
12. Many desert animals stay cool by burrowing underground during the day.

SUMMARIZE IT! TASK CARDS

Sample Answer Key for Cards 13-24

Here are some example summaries...

13. The semi-aquatic capybara is the largest rodent in the world.
14. Computer screens use millions of tiny pixels to make pictures.
15. Seahorses attach themselves to sea grass or coral instead of swimming.
16. The Mexican holiday of El Dia de los Muertos honors the dead.
17. On the moon, there is no air to make a feather float.
18. A snow leopard has thick fur and large lungs for cold weather.
19. Galapagos penguins swim in the ocean to stay cool during the day.
20. Footballs used to be made from pig bladders.
21. Many people died while constructing the Great Wall of China.
22. The beaver population is out of control on Tierra del Fuego.
23. Mangrove trees have roots that help them survive in estuaries.
24. Making products from recycled materials saves electricity.

SUMMARIZE IT!

Shorter than the text.

Use your own words.

Main ideas only.

