

Leave In/Leave Out

Using the **Leave In/Leave Out** skill builder supports students in determining the central idea or theme of a text and summarizing the key supporting details. Determining the central (or main ideas) also supports students in writing an evidence-based summary.

Directions:

When working with students to help them summarize the text by only including the most salient details, have students:

1. Write on the Skill line the skill: determining the most important details from a text.
2. Reflect on the importance of learning this skill and the question: *Why am I learning this skill?*
3. Record their thoughts in the space next to the question.
4. Record the title of the text they are summarizing.
5. Review the terms "summary" and "evidence."
6. Brainstorm as many facts as they can recall from the text.
7. Record the facts. Only include evidence from the text.
8. Determine which facts to leave in the summary and which to leave out.
9. Develop criteria for the facts that they will leave in their summary.
10. Develop criteria for the facts that they will leave out of their summary.
11. Using the criteria, review the facts and move any that seem misplaced.
12. Write a summary of the text using only information from the leave-in section
13. Reflect on how they will use this skill in other situations and the question: *How will I use this skill in the future?*
14. Record their thoughts in the space next to the question.

Leave In/ Leave Out

Name: _____ Date: _____

Skill: _____

Why am I learning
this skill?

Text I am summarizing:	
Facts to leave in your summary:	Facts to leave out of your summary:
Leave in criteria:	Leave out criteria:
Summary:	

How will I use this
skill in the future?