Letters Home from Yosemite by Lisa Halvorsen

Grade level: 4th Grade

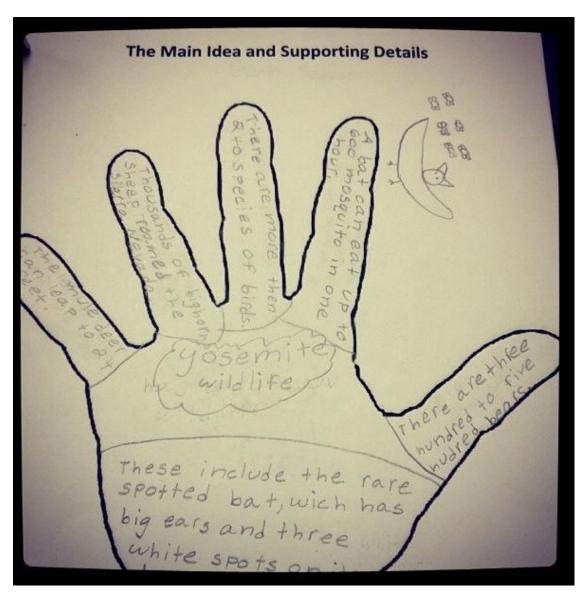
Subject(s) Area: English Language Arts (Reading)

Materials needed: Letters Home from Yosemite to read, paper/notebooks, pencils, whiteboard,

whiteboard marker

Standards:	RI.2: Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by
Standards.	key details; summarize the text.
	SL.2: Ask and answer questions about key details in a text read aloud or
	information presented orally or through other media.
Objectives:	Students will be able to recognize the main idea of a paragraph/text.
Objectives.	Students will be able to recognize the supporting details of a
	paragraph/text.
	Students will be able to hear a story read aloud and answer questions about
	it.
	Students will be able to use a graphic organizer to represent their ideas.
Lagrania a Aghiriki ag	1. Introduce the story: The teacher will talk a bit about the story, its genre,
Learning Activities:	hypothesize with the students what it's going to be about, etc. She will also
	review the main idea and supporting details (hands example).
	2. Read the story: The teacher will read the story aloud to the students. She
	will check for attentiveness and comprehension by asking questions
	frequently. She will also stop several times throughout the story to ask the
	students about the main ideas and supporting details of portions of the
	reading.
	3. Summarize/Review the story: The teacher will review the story with the
	students by asking questions and she will ask students to summarize it.
	4. Practice: The teacher will lead the students in an activity to practice
	identifying a main idea and its supporting details. Using passages from the
	story, students will work in groups to identify the main idea and some
	supporting details. Then, they will share with the class. (If there is extra
	time, each group can do every passage.)
	5. Wrap-up: The teacher will wrap-up the lesson with a review of the
	concepts learned that day and then collect the activity from the students.
Assessment:	As the teacher reads the story aloud to the students, she will assess and
	check for attentiveness and comprehension by stopping to ask students
	questions about the story.
	As the students work on their activity, the teacher will walk around the
	room to assure that the students stay on task.
	The teacher will collect the activity on main ideas and supporting details
	from the students.
Reflection:	The lesson went so well! Even the classroom teacher complimented me! ©
Nellection.	It actually went a lot better than I had anticipated. Next time I do it,
	however, I will be sure to slow down when reading. Maybe it was because I
	was nervous and overall am a fast reader, but I read through the story
	pretty quickly and probably didn't give enough time to process it all fully.
	So, I simply need to take a deep breath and slow down. Otherwise, I think it
L	30, 1 simply fieed to take a deep breath and slow down. Other wise, I think it

	went really well and the kids understood the main concepts. The hands idea really helped with them grasping the main concept.
Accommodations and Modifications:	n/a



Page 120: "Badger Pass" (Example of possible Main Idea and Supporting Details)

More than 3.5 million people visit the park every year.

Some areas of the park can only be reached by foot or horseback. Many people visit Yosemite every year.

Most people come in the summer months.

There is a popular ski spot in the park called Badger Pass.

Page 122: "Giant Sequoias" (Example of possible Main Idea and Supporting Details)

Sequoias are the largest species of tree in the world.

People can walk through the trunks of some of thre trees! Sequoias are really big trees that are very old.

One sequoia tree, Grizzly Giant, is about 2,700 years old.

Sequoias can grow to over 300 feet tall, 40 feet around, and can live more than 3,000 years.

Page 123: "Yosemite Wildlife" (Example of possible Main Idea and Supporting Details)

The writer has seen a ton of mule deer since she arrived.

More than 240 species of birds and 15 species of bats have been spotted in Yosemite. Yosemite is full of many different kinds of wildlife.

The park is also home to mountain lions, bobcats, coyotes, black-tailed jackrabbits, yellowbellied marmots, rattlesnakes, and California bighorn sheep.

The writer sees a black bear and her two cubs on her way to Glacier Point.

Page 124: "Glacier Point" (Example of possible Main Idea and Supporting Details)

Glacier Point is 3,200 feet straight above the floor of Yosemite Valley.

In the distance the writer could see Yosemite Falls, El Capitan, and Half Dome. Glacier Point is very high and has a great view of the park.

The ranger told the writer that Glacier Point is a good place to see peregrine falcons in flight.

The writer could see the light reflected off the bare rock surfaces at surise and sunset "painting" them different colors.

Page 118: "Arrival in...San Francisco" (Example of possible Main Idea and Supporting Details)

Yosemite is known throughout the world for its amazing scenery

Yosemite is America's third national park. Yosemite is a beautiful national park.

It has incredible waterfalls, rock formations, alpine lakes and meadows, and giant sequoia trees.

Yosemite was established as a national park on Oct.1, 1890, by an act of Congress.

Page 127: "Tioga Pass" (Example of possible Main Idea and Supporting Details)

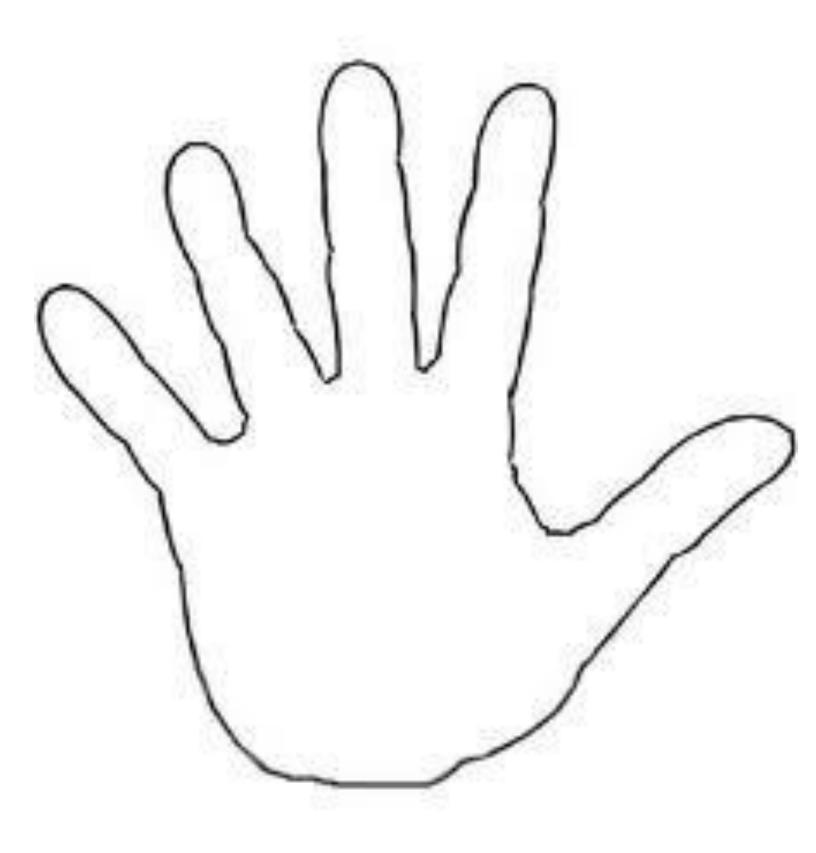
It's 9,945 feet above sea level.

Many flowers and plants grow here that are different from those in lower places like Yosemite Valley. Tioga Pass is a unique highway.

The trees along this highway are small and studented, because it's diffidcult for them to grow at such high altitudes.

It's the highest highway pass in the Sierra Nevada range and in all of California.

The Main Idea and Supporting Details



The Main Idea and Supporting Details

