



## Summarizing

### Strategy

**What is Summarizing?** Students identify the central or key ideas in text, put them into their own words, and organize them into a condensed version of the piece.

**Why use it – expected outcomes?** Students will:

- Remember key ideas from what was read
- Write better summaries
- Become more aware of text structures and other text clues

**When to use it?**

- Text has a lot of extraneous detail
- Text is unorganized
- To check for student understanding of content
- To prepare for a jigsaw activity
- Students are collecting information for research assignments

### Procedures

**How to use it?** When teaching students to summarize, it is helpful to model it first and practice as a group. This can be done quickly with short (1-3 paragraphs) articles or textbook entries.

#### Summary Funnel

1. Preview the text to determine what type of text it is. The type of text will determine what components you will watch for while you read. Specific text types are addressed following these directions.
2. Take notes while you read.
3. When finished reading notes, decide what is most important.