Gathering Text Evidence for Informational Writing

Grade 4
Why Take Notes?

- It can sometimes be tricky to write about a topic if we don’t have notes to refer to.
- We also want to make sure we are writing about the text in our own words.
- Taking notes help us to use text evidence, while using our own words.
1. Read a chunk of text.
2. Ask yourself, “What would be a good heading for this part?”
3. Write your thinking in the box.
4. Go back and skim the text for a few details that support what you wrote in the box.
5. Write these details under the box.
Dolphins are one of the most recognizable and interesting forms of sea life. Dolphins are light gray with darker gray backs. They are highly intelligent and are related to whales and porpoises. Dolphins are found across the world, usually in the shallow salt waters of oceans and seas.
What would be a good heading for this part?

Introduction to Dolphins

- Light and dark gray
- Related to whales and porpoises
- Live all over the world
Dolphins

Dolphins are mammals. They must breathe air to survive. When a dolphin is born, its mother will move away from other dolphins and begin swimming near the surface of the water. Dolphin calves are born tail first. The head is born last so that the mother can take the newly born calf to the surface to breathe. Dolphin calves nurse up to two years. They stay with their mothers until they are 3 to 8 years old.
Baby Dolphins

- Born tail first
- Mom takes newborn to surface to breathe
- Stay with mom 3 to 8 years
Dolphins are carnivores. They eat fish, squid, and crustaceans. Dolphins, like bats, use echolocation to find their prey. Sometimes, dolphins will hunt with one another by surrounding a school of fish. Once the fish are trapped inside the dolphin circle, the dolphins take turns swimming through the school to catch the fish.
Practice With a Partner!
You Will Need Your Graphic Organizer

What would be a good heading for this part?

Dolphins
Habits

• Carnivores
  
  • _________________
  • _________________

Details from the text
Dolphins live in groups called pods. Dolphin pods usually have up to a dozen dolphins. The dolphins in the pod take care of one another. Dolphins have been known to help sick or injured members of the pod by bringing them to the surface to breathe. Sometimes, when food is plentiful, pods will join up with one another to form a “super pod” of up to 1,000 dolphins! Dolphins communicate with one another using clicks, whistles, and other sounds.
Practice With a Partner!

What would be a good heading for this part?

Details from the text

• ___________________

• ___________________

• “super pods” can have up to 1,000 dolphins
Dolphins are well known for their playful behavior. They are often seen leaping out of the water and spy-hopping. When a dolphin spy-hops, it rises straight up out of the water to see the surrounding area. Dolphins will play with seaweed and other objects found in the water. They will also play with one another. Dolphins are often seen following ships. Scientists believe that dolphins swim next to the ships to help conserve energy. This is known as bow-riding. As the ship moves through the ocean waves, it makes swimming easier for the dolphins.
Practice With a Partner!

What would be a good heading for this part?

Details from the text:

• ___________________
• ___________________
• ___________________
Your Turn!

- Use evidence from the text to write about what you learned from the article.
- Refer to the graphic organizer you completed with your partner to help you with your writing.
- Use headings to organize your writing into parts.