

Big Ideas

A main idea is what a story is really about—the fight between good and evil, for example, or a character who wants to grow and change in some way. Usually there are two or three main ideas in a story, and there are always details that give you clues about what the main ideas are.

In this activity, you will figure out the main ideas of the play *The Dark is Rising* and find the “supporting” details for each one.

Directions: Read each main idea below. Then, in the boxes below them, list three details from the play that support each idea. You will need to keep the play handy and refer to it throughout the activity. Be specific! We got you started.

MAIN IDEA

The Light and the Dark are locked in an ongoing struggle.

SUPPORTING DETAIL 1

Merriman and Miss Greythorne tell Will that “the dark is rising.”

SUPPORTING DETAIL 2

SUPPORTING DETAIL 3

Continued ►►

MAIN IDEA

The Rider wants to stop Will.

SUPPORTING DETAIL 1

SUPPORTING DETAIL 2

SUPPORTING DETAIL 3

Continued ►►

MAIN IDEA

Will has a lot to learn about the strange events happening around him.

SUPPORTING DETAIL 1

SUPPORTING DETAIL 2

SUPPORTING DETAIL 3
