

Finding the Main Idea Worksheet

Directions: Read the passage. Then read each question about the passage.
Choose the best answer to each question, Mark the letter for that answer.

Animals that live in the Arctic have found many ways to cope with the cold.
Polar bears have two main guards against the cold: extra fur and a layer of fat.
These things help keep bears warm in below-freezing temperatures.

Some animals have other ways of handling the cold.
Hares and reindeer can run quickly across the snow.
That's because their wide "snowshoe" feet don't break through the snow's crust.

Hares in the Arctic also have very small ears.
That's because body heat escapes through the ears, cooling the body down.
Smaller ears allow less heat to escape.

Some animals, such as whales, birds,
and caribou, handle the cold by heading south.
They live in the Arctic in the summer, when temperatures are higher.

1. A key word to the main idea
in the second paragraph is ..

- A. Fat
- B. Fur
- C. guard
- D. layer

2. A detail in the third
paragraph is ...

- A. whales head south
- B. snowshoe feet don't break
through the crust
- C. hares and reindeer
- D. hares have small ears

3. A key word to the main idea
of the third paragraph
is ...

- A. hares
- B. reindeer
- C. run
- D. break

4. A key word to the main idea
in the last paragraph is ...

- A. south
- B. whales
- C. birds
- D. caribou

5. The main idea of the whole
passage is that Arctic animals ...

- A. get cold
- B. leave during the winter
- C. have small ears
- D. find ways to cope with cold

