Main Idea/Detail Frame

**Use:** The Main Idea/Detail Frame strategy is a Mid-Reading and Post-Reading strategy that is appropriate for use in all content areas and, with scaffolding, at all grade levels.

**Purpose:** Use of the Main Idea/Detail Frame promotes student capacity to glean fundamental information from difficult text. In addition, it assists students over time in developing the skills to organize ideas and supporting information not only from text, but also as they write informational text themselves.

**Process:** As students read any content text, they use the graphic organizer to note the main ideas they think are being conveyed by the text, as well as the supporting details that explain these main ideas.

After reading is complete, the teacher should engage students in small or large groups to share their graphic organizers and use the cumulative results to create an outline of critical information from the text.