

Worksheet: Main Idea and Supporting Details

Read the passage below. Then answer the questions below.



THE KINGBIRD

The kingbird is not bigger than a robin. He eats flies, worms, bugs, and berries. He builds his nest in a tree, near some house. When there are young ones in the nest, he sits on the top of a tree near them. He watches to see that no bird comes to hurt them or their mother. If a hawk, a crow, or even an eagle comes near, he makes a dash at it. Though he is so small, he is brave, and he is also very active. He never fails to drive off other birds from his nest. He flies around and around the eagle, and suddenly strikes him with his sharp bill. He strikes at his eye, and then darts away before the eagle can catch him; or he strikes from behind, and is off again before the eagle can turn round. In a short time, the great eagle is tired of such hard blows, and flies away. He is very glad to get rid of his foe. Is not the little fellow a brave bird? Because he can drive off all other birds, he is called the KINGBIRD.

Questions

1. What is the main idea of the passage?

- The kingbird is not bigger than a robin
- The kingbird eats flies, worms, bugs, and berries.
- The kingbird is small, but he is brave, and very active
- The eagle is the kingbird's greatest foe.

Name: _____

Date: _____

2. Why does the kingbird sits on the top of a tree near the nest?

- The kingbird is looking for food.
- The kingbird likes to look for trouble.
- The kingbird watches to see that no bird comes to hurt his young or their mother.

3. What makes the Kingbird a brave bird?

- The kingbird would defend his nest against a dangerous predators.
- The kingbird would always fight with other birds.
- The kingbird is always protecting its nest.

4. Which of the following words best describes a kingbird?

- small
- greedy
- vigilant
- aggressive
- brave
- active
- idle

5. How does the kingbird succeed in getting rid of his foes?

- He plays with them until they get tired.
- He darts around, until they are tired of trying to catch him.
- He peeks them in their eyes until they cannot see.
- He darts around and continually strikes them with his sharp bill.

6. According to the writer, why is this bird called a kingbird?

- He drives off all other birds.
- He has a sharp bill.
- He is a small, brave bird.

7. In this line, "*He is very glad to get rid of his foe.*" Give an example of one foe mentioned in the passage.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Answers:

1. What is the main idea of the passage? *The kingbird is small, but he is brave, and very active.*
2. Why does the kingbird sits on the top of a tree near the nest? *The kingbird watches to see that no bird comes to hurt his young or their mother.*
3. What makes the Kingbird a brave bird? *The kingbird would defend his nest against a dangerous predators.*
4. Which of the following words best describes a kingbird? *Small, vigilant, brave, active*
5. How does the kingbird succeed in getting rid of his foes? *He darts around and continually strikes them with his sharp bill.*
6. According to the writer, why is this bird called a kingbird? *He drives off all other birds.*
7. In this line, “He is very glad to get rid of his foe.” Give an example of one foe mentioned in the passage. Type your answer in the space provided.
Eagle, hawk, crow