Summarize a Text

Grade 4 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

Name _____ Date _____

Read the text. Circle the detail that is important enough to include in a summary.

READ THIS FIRST

Mealtime in Space

Astronauts on the International Space Station eat three meals a day, just like you. But eating in space is quite different from eating at home.

On the space station, everything floats. Crumbs could drift into the astronauts' eyes or clog the machines. That is why astronauts eat tortillas instead of sliced bread. Tortillas make far fewer crumbs. Salt and pepper also come in liquid form, because loose grains would float away.

Most space food is prepared on Earth before the trip. Some meals are dried, so the astronauts add water before eating. Others come in sealed pouches that can be warmed in a small oven. Drinks come as powder in bags. Astronauts squirt in water and sip through a straw.

Astronauts must also keep their food from floating off. Many packages have strips that stick to a tray. Sticky foods, such as peanut butter and thick sauces, cling to a spoon.

Fresh food is a special treat. When a supply ship arrives, it sometimes brings apples, oranges, or other fruit. Astronauts have also grown lettuce in a small space garden.

Taste can change in space, too. Fluids in the body shift toward the head, so astronauts often feel stuffed up, like they have a cold. Because of this, many crew members enjoy spicy foods and hot sauce.

1. Which detail is important enough to belong in a summary?
   Supply ships sometimes bring oranges.
   Peanut butter clings to a spoon.
   Most space food is prepared on Earth.

2. Astronauts eat tortillas, not bread, to avoid crumbs.
   Astronauts have grown lettuce in a small space garden.
   Fruit sometimes arrives on a supply ship.

3. Astronauts have grown lettuce in a small space garden.
   Astronauts eat three meals a day on the station.
   Strips and sticky foods keep meals from floating.

4. Fresh fruit is a special treat when a supply ship comes.
   Many crew members enjoy spicy foods and hot sauce.
   Drinks come as powder that astronauts mix with water.

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Answer Key - Grade 4 Reading Worksheet - Building Confidence

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