“The devil is in the details.”

A detail is a fact or piece of information about something.

Details help clarify, explain, describe, expand, and illustrate the main idea in a piece of reading or writing. Details help us communicate our ideas.

- Fact: The dress is red.

- Quote: “Give me liberty or give me death.”

- Statistic: Forty-one percent of the people . . .

- Figurative language: Simile, metaphor, personification
  - Simile: The moonless night was dark as black velvet.
  - Metaphor: His room was a junk pile.
  - Personification: These walls have ears.


- Information in a Visual: Data, labels, trends, patterns, etc.

- Sensory Details: See, Hear, Taste, Smell, Feel

Ways you’ll show you can “do details”:
- Make a presentation
- Write a research paper
- Prove a point
- Create a story
- Summarize information
- Answer questions
- Create and explain a graphic organizer
- Classify information
- Judge information
- Justify something
- AND LOTS MORE!

You have to know how to use details to do important things like:
- Compare and contrast ideas
- Support a point of view, a point, or an argument
- Oppose a point of view
- Persuade someone to see something your way
- Make a decision
- Describe a character
- Debate someone with facts
- Make inferences
- Make predictions
- Explain your thinking
- Sequence information
- Make a hypothesis
- Check an inference and the details to see if they match
- Explain why something happened
- and more!

Sometimes the details will be on just one page.

Sometimes the details will be spread across the pages.

These are some of the words and phrases that mean look for the details and use them to answer the question.

- According to the passage, which is correct?
- What can be reasonably inferred by ___?
- Which question is/is not answered by information in the passage?
- Best
- According to . . .
- Best states
- Supported by
- Supported by the passage
- Best be described as . . .
- Most likely
- Best explanation

According to . . .
Best states
Supported by
Supported by the passage
Best be described as . . .
Most likely
Best explanation