



Fancy Fireworks

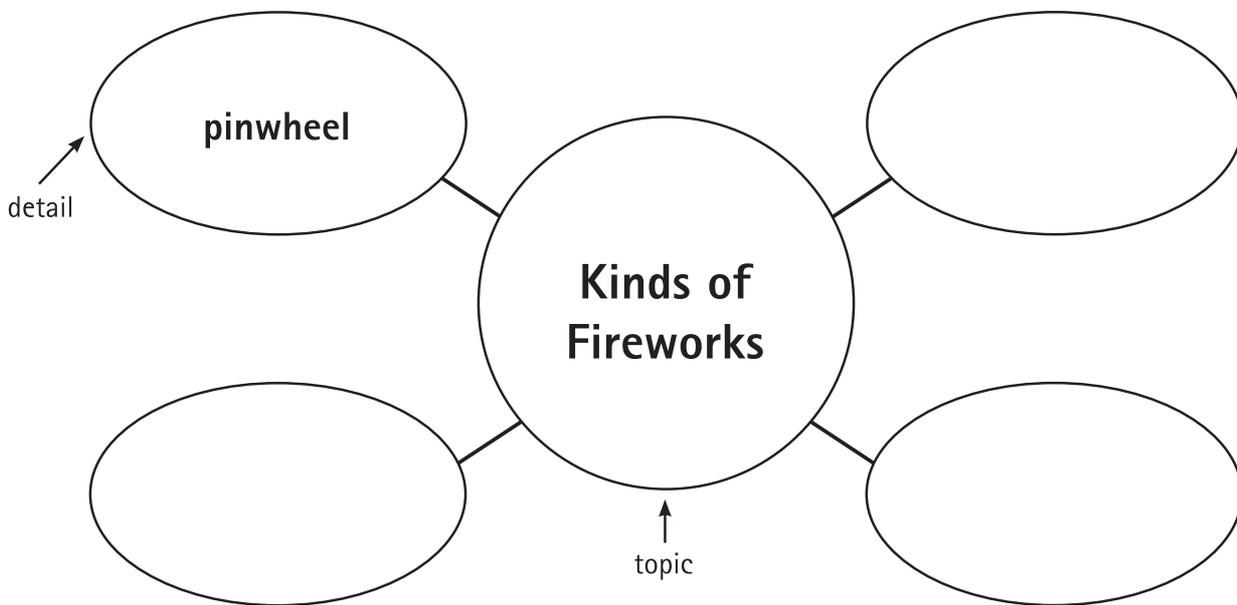


Kaboom! It's the Fourth of July. Fireworks light up the night. Have you ever seen a willow firework? It has long trails of color that float to the ground. The pinwheel and comet are two other popular fireworks. One of the loudest fireworks is called the salute. After a bright flash, you hear a loud BOOM!

Read the paragraph. Then answer the questions.

1. Which firework has long trails of color? _____
2. Which firework makes a loud BOOM? _____
3. What is a popular firework? _____

Add three more details to the web.

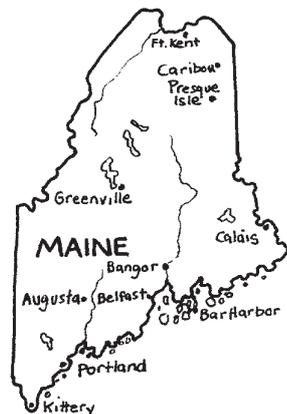


MORE! What do you think a pinwheel firework looks like? Draw a picture to show your ideas.



Things to Do in Maine

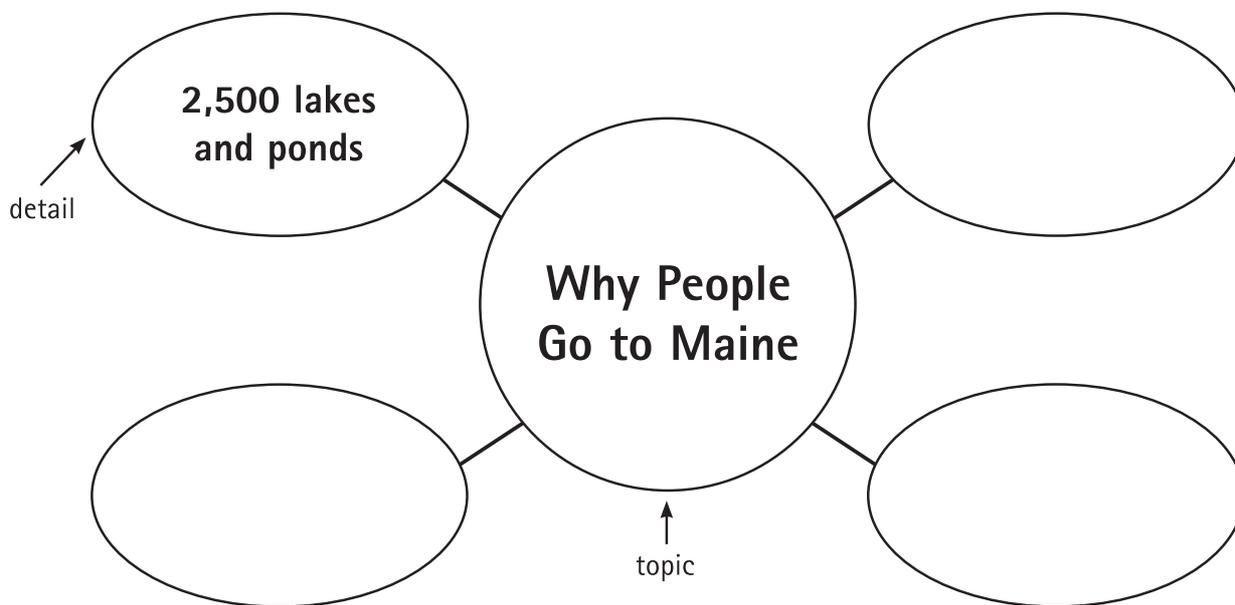
Maine has 2,500 lakes and ponds for summer fun. There are more than 400 islands along the coast. People swim, fish, and sail off these islands. Visitors enjoy eating in Maine, too. The state grows most of the blueberries in the United States. In Maine, you can eat blueberry pie and lobster all summer long!



Read the paragraph. Then answer the questions.

1. What does Maine have along its coast? _____
2. What fruit does Maine grow? _____
3. What other food is Maine known for? _____

Add three more details to the web.

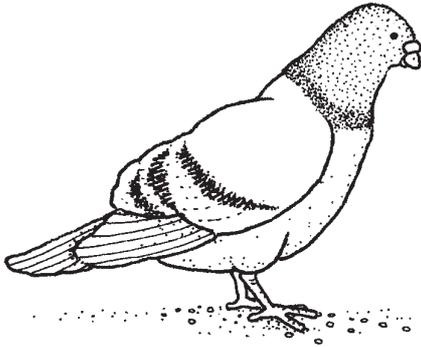


MORE! Find Maine on a map of the United States.

Name _____ Date _____



Picture a Pigeon

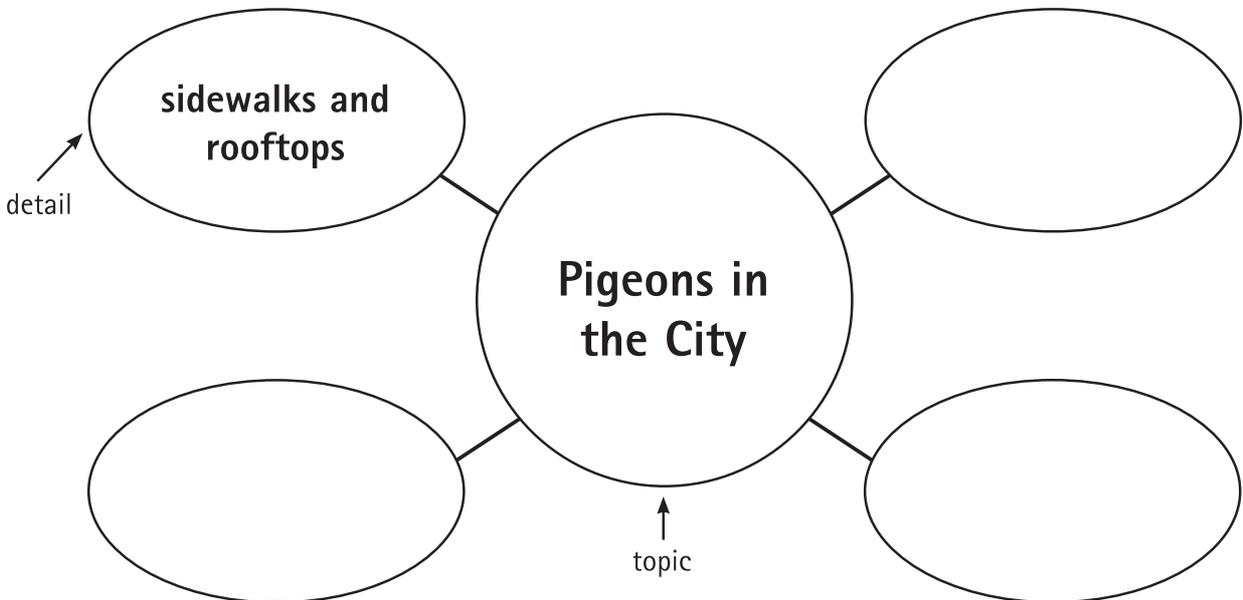


What's a city bird like? Many of the birds that live in cities are pigeons. These birds are usually found on city sidewalks and on building rooftops. A pigeon weighs about half a pound. It can fly up to 60 miles an hour. Most pigeons live for 10 to 15 years.

Read the paragraph. Then answer the questions.

1. How much does a pigeon weigh? _____
2. How fast can a pigeon fly? _____
3. How long does a pigeon live? _____

Add three more details to the web.

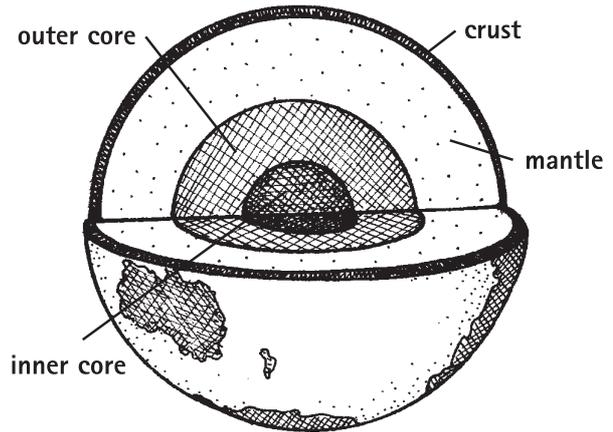


MORE! Baby pigeons are called squabs. Add this fact to the web.

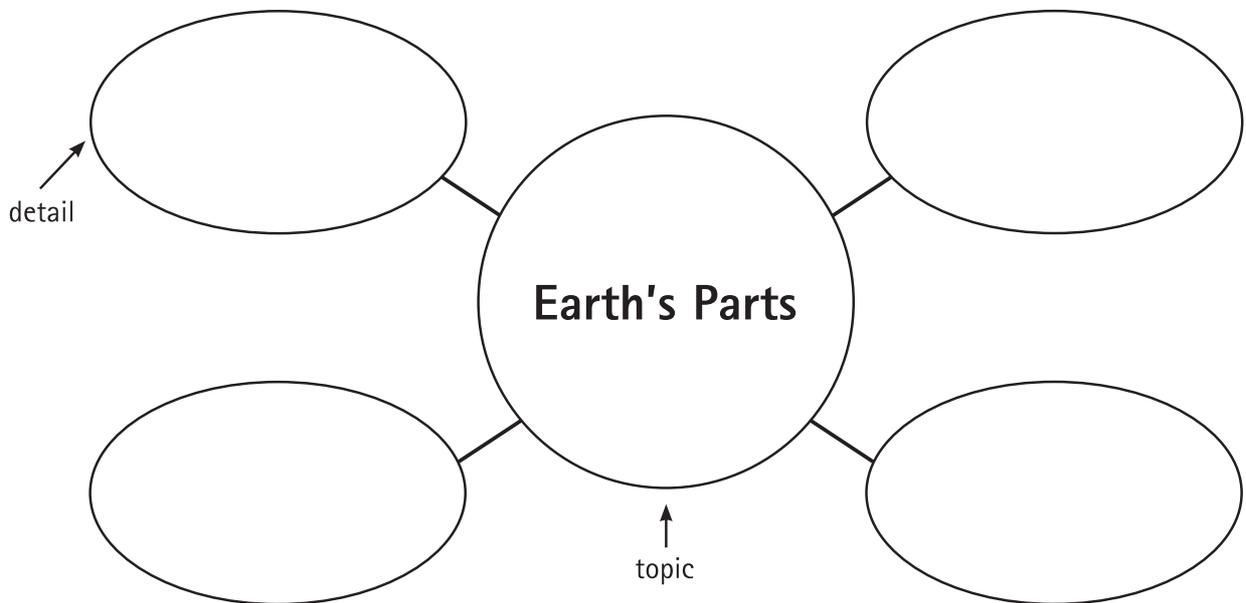


The Inside Story

You live on the outside of Earth. This part of our planet is called the crust. What is the inside of Earth like? Just below the crust is the mantle. It is made up of hot rock. Next comes the outer core. The inner core is the very center of Earth. Both the outer and inner cores are made of two minerals—iron and nickel.



Read the topic in the web. Find four details in the paragraph that tell about the topic. Add them to the web.



MORE! Use the web to tell someone about the different parts of Earth.

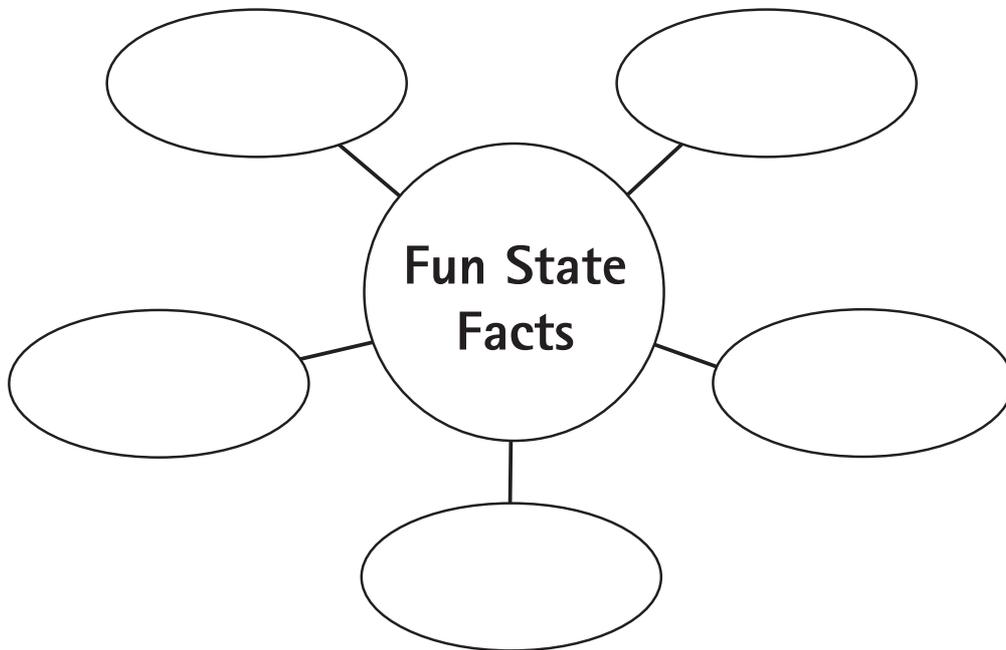


State Stuff



Each state in the United States has an official flag and flower. Here are more fun facts about some states. In Arizona, the state colors are blue and gold. South Carolina's state amphibian is the salamander. Milk is the state drink in North Dakota. Maine has a state insect—the honeybee. What's the Massachusetts state dessert? It's Boston cream pie, of course!

Read the topic in the web. Find five details in the paragraph that tell about the topic. Add them to the web.



MORE!

Find out the following facts about your state: flower, nickname, bird, and one more fun fact. Make a web for your state.

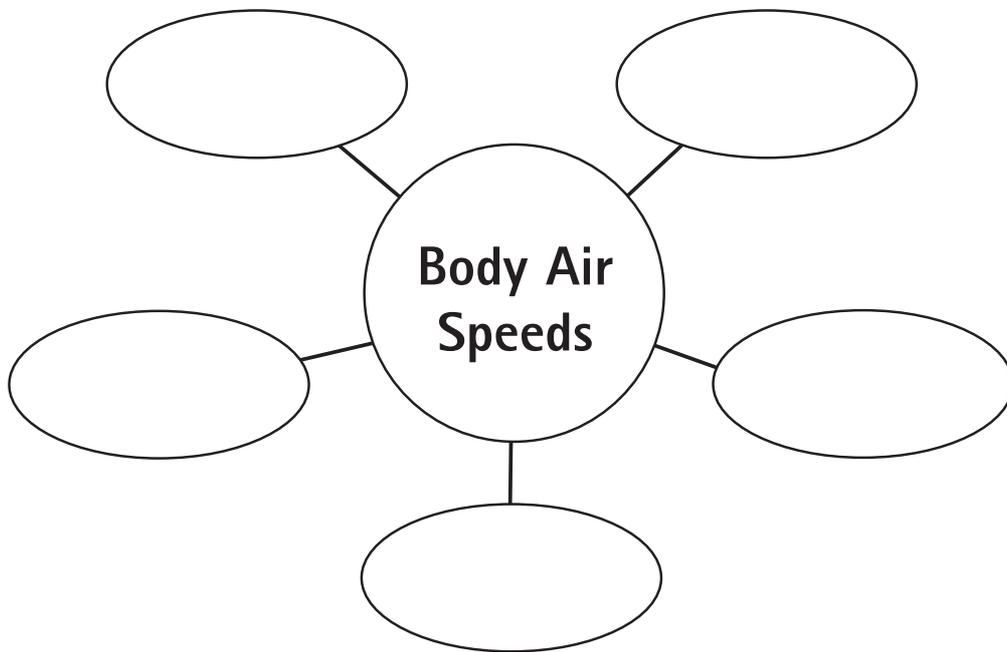


A Fast Laugh

When you laugh, air comes out of your mouth at 16 miles per hour (mph). The air in a yawn can measure 9 mph. The air in a snore can be 6 to 7 mph. Air really moves when you hiccup. It can go 50 miles per hour! What's the air speed of a sneeze? It's 104 mph. Ah-choo! That's faster than the wind in a hurricane!



Read the topic in the web. Find five details in the paragraph that tell about the topic. Add them to the web.



MORE! Make a bar graph. Use the information in the paragraph.

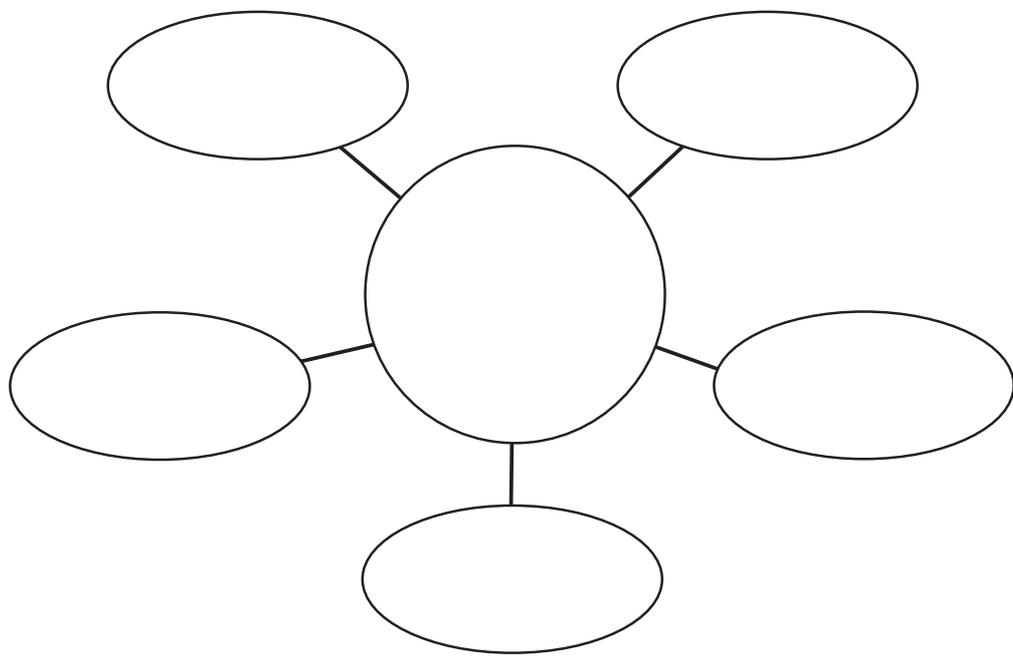


What's for Lunch?

Have you ever had a string bean sandwich? Most students wouldn't want that for lunch! What is the favorite sandwich in America's school lunches? If you said peanut butter and jelly, you'd be right. Other popular sandwiches are ham and bologna. Cheese is the fourth favorite sandwich. Many students also like turkey sandwiches.



**What is the topic of the paragraph?
Write it in the center circle. Find five
details that tell about the topic.
Write them in the web.**

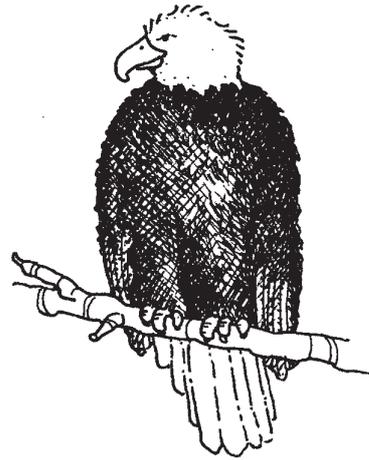


MORE! What kinds of sandwiches does your class like the best? Take a survey of your class.

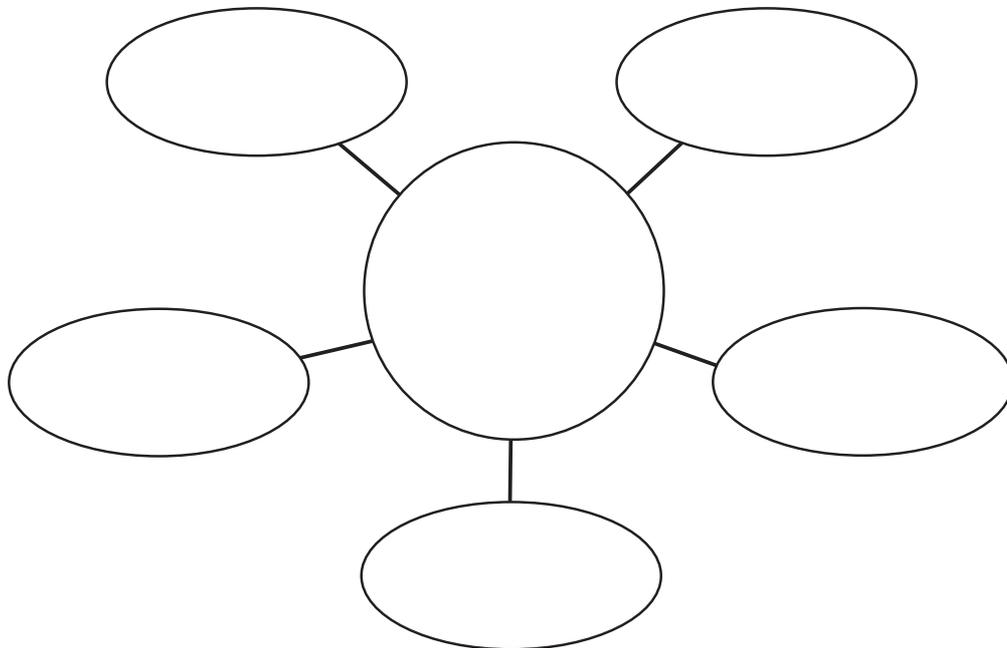


So Many Symbols

A symbol is a picture or object that stands for something else. For example, the American flag stands for the United States. Uncle Sam is another U.S. symbol. The name comes from the initials U.S. Have you seen the Statue of Liberty? The statue is a symbol for our country and government. The Liberty Bell stands for our freedom. Another symbol, the bald eagle, also stands for freedom.



What is the topic of the paragraph? Write it in the center circle. Find five details that tell about the topic. Write them in the web.



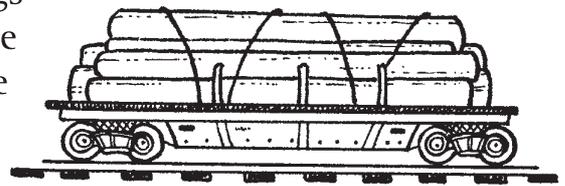
MORE!

Another U.S. symbol is the Great Seal. Add this fact to the web. Find out what the Great Seal stands for.

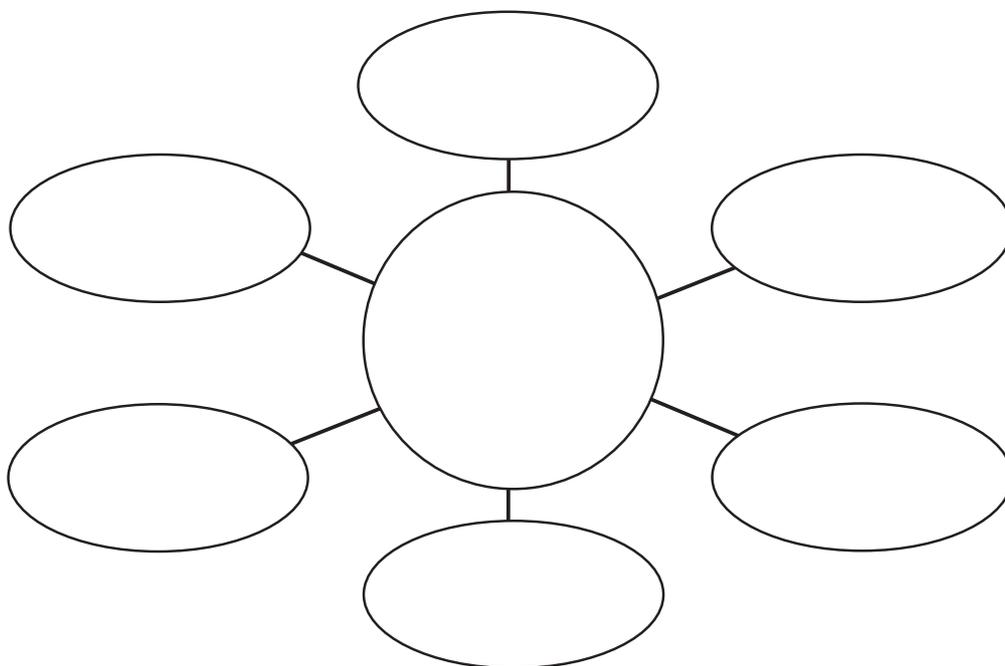


Tracking Trains

Trains carry just about everything. Different kinds of train cars carry different things. The locomotive pulls the train. It carries the engineer, or driver. A hopper car carries things like coal, sand, and salt. A flatcar carries large things like telephone poles. The poles must be tied down. Gas is carried in a tanker car. A boxcar can hold many things, from animals to toys. The caboose is at the end of the train. It holds offices and beds for the crew.



What is the topic of the paragraph? Write it in the center circle. Find six details that tell about the topic. Write them in the web.



MORE! The paragraph describes a freight train. Find out what the word *freight* means. Write a sentence using the word.



Testing It Out

Use after completing Tracking Trains on page 14.

Fill in the circle of the best answer.

- The main idea of the paragraph is that—
 (A) boxcars hold many different kinds of things (C) the locomotive is the most important car
 (B) different train cars carry different things (D) a train has six different kinds of cars
- A train car that carries sand is a—
 (A) locomotive (C) boxcar
 (B) hopper (D) caboose
- The last car in a freight train is the—
 (A) locomotive (C) hopper
 (B) caboose (D) tanker
- You can guess that a flatcar can carry—
 (A) big pipes (C) sand
 (B) gas (D) pigs
- A tanker might carry—
 (A) animals (C) the crew
 (B) logs (D) oil
- The most powerful car on a freight train must be the—
 (A) tanker (C) flatcar
 (B) locomotive (D) caboose
- On long trips, the engineer probably sleeps in the—
 (A) boxcar (C) caboose
 (B) locomotive (D) tanker
- Piles of wheat would be carried in a—
 (A) hopper (C) flatcar
 (B) locomotive (D) boxcar