SCHOLASTIC SCOPE

Name: _____ Date: _____

SKILL: Summarizing

What's the Big Idea?

How do you write a summary of an article? First, you need to pinpoint the really important information—the facts that are key to understanding the main point of the story. Sometimes, the most intriguing bits of information are not necessary to understand a story's significance. In this activity, you will think about the important events in the article you're reading and figure out which events belong in your summary.

1. List the important events in the article you read. Use one sentence for each event.

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2. Look over your list and make sure that every event you have included is important. Cross off any event that is not needed to tell the story, even if it seems really interesting to you.

3. Using your notes from above, write a short summary of the article you read on the back of this worksheet or on a separate piece of paper. Make sure that each event you choose to include is important.

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