

# Identifying

**PURPOSE** It is often difficult for students to identify the key points in a text. This graphic organizer uses pictures of keys to remind students of this task and to help them identify the main points in their reading.

**WHAT TO DO** After an event or unit study, ask students to identify the main points and write each one inside a key. It is important to model and practice this activity with the class before asking students to do it. Later, students can cut out the keys and sequence them to retell the events.

They gather ingredients.....

They bake a cake.....

Thunder Cake

The girl isn't afraid anymore.....



## Literature

After students read a book like *Thunder Cake* by Polacco, have them write the main (key) events of the story. It is helpful for students to work with a partner or small group to reach a consensus before writing the information.



## Social Studies

While reading a textbook, have students identify the key information from one section at a time. (The smaller the text selection, the more detailed the key parts.) As students grow more skilled, they can work with larger selections of text.

Food only.....  
for workers.....

Atlantic trade.....  
included slaves.....

The Early Colony of Jamestown

Difficult life.....  
(sickness, hard work).....

Needed to raise money.....  
for our trip.....

20 students.....  
baked.....

Our Class Bake Sale

Joe's brownies.....  
won 1st prize.....



## General Classroom Use

Have students record the important points of a current news event or class activity.

**Key Points**

