Main Idea

*Read the paragraphs and determine the main idea of each one. Send your responses to your teacher.*

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| **Paragraph A** | Babies use both hands. However, babies use one hand more than the other. This hand may become the preferred one. How can you tell? Lay a baby on its back. Notice which side the baby faces. If the baby looks to the right most of the time, it will probably be right-handed. What does it mean if the baby faces left more often? The baby will most likely be left-handed. | *Select the main idea of paragraph A:*   1. How to tell right from left-handed babies. 2. Babies use their hands for many things. 3. There are more left-handed babies. |
| **Paragraph B** | Were you born after 1985? If so, how long do you expect to live? Most people born after 1985 can expect to live more than 70 years. Of course, this is just a guess based on past records. By the way, females can expect to live about six years longer than males. That’s taken from past records too! | *Select the main idea of paragraph B:*   1. Why people live to be 70. 2. How long one might expect to live. 3. Records are important. |
| **Paragraph C** | Do you ever wonder how you taste things? You owe your sense of taste to your taste buds. We have nine thousand taste buds just on the tongue alone. There are also taste buds on the roof of your mouth. You even have taste buds on the back of your throat. | *What is the main idea?* |
| **Paragraph D** | Farmers in Japan have a problem. There is not much land to farm, and there are many people to feed. Some farmers cut rows in the hillsides and grow crops there. This helps a little, but many kinds of food are shipped to Japan. They can choose anything they want to eat! | *What is the main idea?* |