**Title:** Summarizing Grade 4  
**Grade:** 4th Grade

**Content:** Writing and Comprehension  
**Duration:** 5-20 minutes daily for five days

**Standard:**
- **RI.4.2:** Determine the main idea and details  
- **RL.4.2:** Recount stories and determine their central message, lesson, or moral.

**Objective:** Students will summarize a television show, radio show, article, or a book of their choice.

**Materials:**
- Paper  
- Text or video of choice

**Introduction Description:** Summarizing events in stories and in real life allows us to dig deeper into the learning of knowledge or the understanding of events. This is a skill that will be used in school as well as in real life situations outside of the school setting. The more you practice the easier it will be to summarize stories or books. This week you will spend some time practicing summarizing your favorite TV shows, articles, or books. When summarizing you will not retell every event or detail, but focus more on the big ideas. A summary is much shorter than the original and will give others a quick view of the original.

For narratives or fiction it is easy to use the strategy called “Somebody, Wanted, But, So Then”.  
- **Somebody**- Little Red Riding Hood  
- **Wanted**- She wanted to go deliver treats to her grandma.  
- **But**- A wolf tried to steal the treats and pretended to be her grandma.  
- **So**- Little Red Riding Hood tried to get away from the wolf.  
- **Then**- Luckily, the Huntsman comes and rescues her from the wolf.

**Summary:** Little Red Riding how she wanted to deliver treats to her grandma. A big, bad wolf wanted to steal the treats and pretended to be her grandma. Little Red Riding Hood tried to get away from the wolf and was unable. Luckily, the huntsman comes and rescues her from the wolf.

Example: Pip, A short Animated Film [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=07d2dXHYb94](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=07d2dXHYb94)  
- **Somebody**: Pip  
- **Wanted**: Pip wanted to go to the dog university to help humans.  
- **But**: Pip failed his training test.  
- **So**: He was kicked out.  
- **Then**: Pip saved a human from getting hit by a truck. He was invited back to the university.

**Summary:** Pip, a dog, wanted to go to a Dog University to be trained to help humans in need. He failed his dog training test. He was then kicked out of the university. On his way out he saved a human from getting hit by a car. Pip was then invited back into the Dog University.
For information or nonfiction it is easy to use the Five Finger Strategy. State the topic, the main idea, and three details about the main idea.

- **Topic Sentence:** Bears live in places all over the world.
- **Main Idea:** Bears can survive in many places around the world.
- **Detail:** They live in North America, South America, Europe, and Asia
- **Detail:** Most bears eat berries, fish, or seals depending on where they live.
- **Detail:** Bears hibernate during the winter and can go 100 or more days without eating.

**Summary:** Bears live in places all over the world. They have lived in North America, South America, Europe, and Asia. They eat berries, fish, or seals depending on where they live. Bears hibernate during the winter and can go 100 or more days without eating.

**Example:** Solar System 101- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=libKVRa01L8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=libKVRa01L8)

- **Topic Sentence:** The Solar System we live in is only 1 of 500 solar systems discovered.
- **Main Idea:** The solar system is made of 8 planets that are divided into two categories.
- **Detail:** Terrestrial Planets are Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars. They are more rocky, smaller, and have no rings.
- **Detail:** Jovian planets are Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. They are made up of gas and ice.
- **Detail:** All 8 planets revolved around the sun which is a star.

**Summary:** The solar system we live in is only 1 of 500 solar systems discovered. Our solar system is made of 8 planets that are divided into two categories. Terrestrial planets are Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars. They are rockier, smaller, and have no rings. Jovian planets are Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. They are made up of gas and ice. All eight planets rotate around the sun.

**Steps:**

- Choose what you would like to watch, listen, or read.
  - Students can choose something they watched, listened to or read the day before.
  - Radio show, TV show, cartoon, magazine article, comic strips, books

- After they are finished they will write a summary of the events.
  - Students may use the strategies above to help.
  - Students may use strategies you have learned that are different.
  - Summarized do not need to be a certain length but include all big ideas.

**Adaptations:**

- Record yourself giving a summary of the tv show, article, or book.
- Draw a picture of big ideas or events and write a sentence under each one.

**Finished Product:** A completed summary of a TV show, article, or book.