

## Lesson Plan

### Supporting an Idea

**Book:** *Exploring the San Antonio River Walk*

**Series:** Travel America's Landmarks

**Level:** Beacon

### Objective

To help students practice summarizing a text and identifying an idea's supporting points.

### Supplies

- *Exploring the San Antonio River Walk* book
- Whiteboard
- Pencils and paper

### Before the Activity

Read *Exploring the San Antonio River Walk* out loud, or assign it to students to read on their own. Pass out a pencil and a sheet of paper to each student. On the whiteboard, write the following five bullet points:

- Topic sentence: The River Walk combines nature, the city, and the past.
- Nature
- City life
- The past
- Concluding sentence

### Activity

The author concludes *Exploring the San Antonio River Walk* by saying, "The River Walk combines nature, the city, and the past" (p. 27). Students will write one paragraph summarizing the book and providing support for the author's statement. The paragraph will have five sentences and follow the outline on the board. Students will use the author's statement as their topic sentence. Then students should write three sentences explaining how the River Walk involves the next three bullet points. Lastly, students should write a concluding sentence. Collect students' paragraphs at the end of class.

### Evaluation

Using the following sample paragraph, give students 1 point for each of the supporting sentences on nature, city life, and the past. Give 1 point for a concluding sentence. Students can earn a total of 4 points.

Sample Paragraph:

The River Walk combines nature, the city, and the past. Visitors can walk past gardens along the San Antonio River. They can head into the Downtown Reach for shopping and live music. And they can explore historic Spanish missions, the Alamo, and the neighborhood La Villita. There is something for everyone along the San Antonio River Walk.

**Standards**

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational texts, grade 4 (RI 4.1, 4.2, 4.8).