How to write a summary

What is a Summary?

A summary is a brief recollection or account of the main points of a piece of writing, action or event. It typically excludes needless details, remaining short and to the point. There are a number of techniques to use for summarising which can help children retain important parts of a passage of text. Having this skill is ideal for assignment or examination preparation.

Here is an example of **un-summarised** text:

“500 years ago, the world was a very different place. European people had only just made contact with the Americans. England and Scotland were separate kingdoms, each with their own royal family. During this time, the Tudor family ruled England and Wales from 1485 to 1603. They encouraged new religious ideas, exploration and colonisation. There were six different monarchs during the 118 years of the Tudor reign.”

This is an example of the same text **summarised**:

"The Tudors reigned England and Wales from 1485 to 1603.

England and Scotland were separate kingdoms.

There were six different monarchs during their reign."

A summary tells the reader the who, what, when, where and why.

*Who/What: The Tudor Reign*

*When: 1485 to 1603*

*Where: England and Wales*

*Why: To tell us how many different monarchs there were*

LO: Write a summary of The Hummingbird Smile

Why?

Where?

When?

What?

Who?

Now use what you have found to write a short summary of the story.