

Name _____

Family Times

Summary

Mahalia Jackson

In this story, a grandfather tells his granddaughter about the music he loves, the blues. He explains that the blues is not just a feeling. It's a kind of music. Then he tells her about the great blues singer, Mahalia Jackson.

Activity

Making Music Pretend you are starting a family band together. What kind of music will you play? Who will play what instruments? Together, write the lyrics of your first song. Set it to a melody you already know or make up your own.



Comprehension Skill

Main Idea and Details

The **main idea** makes a point about a topic and has at least one supporting detail. **Details** are smaller pieces of information that tell more about the main idea.

Activity

Lyrical Reading Read through the lyrics of a favorite song, or listen to the lyrics very closely when you hear it played. What is the main idea expressed in the song? Sum it up in your own words. What details in the song support the main idea?