## Reading Social Studies

The **main idea** is the most important idea of a passage. **Details** are facts, reasons, or examples that support the main idea.

### Focus Skill Main Idea and Details

Complete this graphic organizer to show that you understand important ideas and details about California's natural regions. A copy of this graphic organizer appears on page 12 of the Homework and Practice Book.

**California's Geography**

**Main Idea**

California's natural regions have different physical and human features.

**Details**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| The Coastal Region has low mountains, a rocky coastline, broad valleys, and islands. | | | |

## California Writing Prompts

**Write an Information Report** Write a report that describes the climate and physical features of the place where you live. Include facts and details that tell what makes your area different from other areas.

**Write a Summary** Think about the many different factors that affect where people choose to live. Then write a summary that tells some of the reasons why Californians live where they do.

## Use Vocabulary

**Identify the term that correctly matches each definition.**

**equator,** p. 13
**harbor,** p. 20
**drought,** p. 32
**suburb,** p. 36
**fault,** p. 42

1. a crack in Earth's surface
2. an imaginary line on a globe dividing Earth into the Northern and Southern Hemispheres
3. a long period of time with little or no rain
4. a town or small city near a large city
5. a body of water where ships can dock safely

## Apply Skills

ANALYSIS SKILL **Use Latitude and Longitude**

6. Examine the map of California on page 17. Find Crescent City, Stockton, and Madera. Then write down the lines of latitude and longitude that best describe the absolute location of each city.
7. Examine the map of California on page 17. Find San Francisco and Sacramento. Which city is closest to 39°N, 122°W?

ANALYSIS SKILL **Use an Elevation Map**

8. Examine the map of California on page 27. What is the elevation of the land around Chico?

## Recall Facts

**Answer these questions.**

9. In which hemispheres is California located?
10. Where is California located in relation to the prime meridian and the equator?
11. How do the physical features and climate of the Desert Region affect the things people do there?
12. How have people in the Coastal Region adapted to the high population density?

**Write the letter of the best choice.**

13. Where do most Californians live?
    - A in the Mountain Region
    - B in the Desert Region
    - C in urban areas
    - D in rural areas
14. Why is the Central Valley a good area for farming?
    - A The region has several mountains.
    - B The region has fertile soil.
    - C The region has a large population.
    - D The region receives little rain.

## Think Critically

15. ANALYSIS SKILL How is the place where you live affected by its relative location?
16. ANALYSIS SKILL How are the coasts of northern California and southern California different? How are they alike?