What's it all about?

Determining the Importance of “Reader of Rocks”

1. Read each strip and determine which sentences represent the most important ideas from the article, “Reader of Rocks”. Then cut the strips apart and classify them into two categories, Main Ideas and Interesting Details.

2. Compare your thinking with your partner’s thinking. Discuss your thinking until you can agree on what goes under each category.

3. Compare your and your partner’s thinking with another pair’s thinking.
Julie works at the United States Polar Rock Repository at the Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio.

Julie knows that rocks can tell a story.

Antarctica was warm and covered by swamps and forests.

It is formed from trees and plants that died, fell to the ground, and were packed together and broken down over millions of years.

The United States Polar Rock Repository is a place that stores rocks from the Arctic and Antarctica.

Julie’s job is to describe, photograph, and store the rocks.

This black, crumbly rock from the continent of Antarctica is coal.

Most of Antarctica is a cold, frozen desert.

The coal tells us that long ago, Antarctica was very different than it is today.

Coal is a fossil fuel.

It is a place that stores rocks from the Arctic and Antarctica.

In college, she started to learn about rocks and decided that maybe she could be a scientist, after all.