Name _____ Date _____

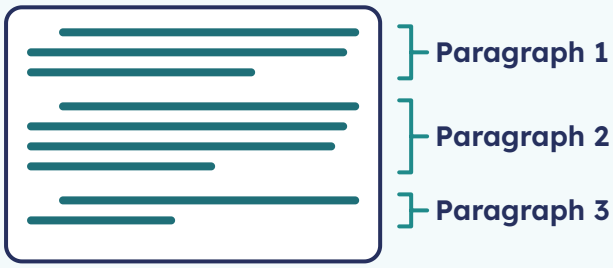
What is a paragraph?

A paragraph is a group of sentences about one idea.

1 Learn



Writers split their writing into **paragraphs**. Each paragraph is a group of sentences about **one idea**, and it starts on a **new line**, often a little way in.



- Each paragraph starts on a **new line**, a little way in. That gap is an **indent**.
- One block of writing = **one paragraph**.

Worked example: how many paragraphs?

On Monday, our class went to a farm. We travelled there on a big green coach.

First, we fed the goats. They tried to nibble our coats! Then we held some fluffy chicks.

At the end of the day, we were very tired. Everyone fell asleep on the way home.

1. Find each line that starts **a little way in**.
2. Count the **blocks**, not the lines or sentences: **3 paragraphs**.
3. Say what each is about:
   getting there · the animals · going home

Flip's tip: a paragraph can be one line long or ten. Don't count lines: count the **new starts**.

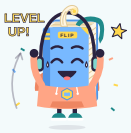
Warm up: fill the gaps. Use two of these words: **sentences** · **pictures** · **idea** · **letters**

A paragraph is a group of _____ **about one** _____ **.**

Grown-ups: read the farm story aloud, pausing after each paragraph to ask, "What was that part mostly about?"

Name _____ Date _____

2 Try it together a child and a grown-up, about 10 minutes



Paragraph hunt

You need: a story book, an information book or a magazine from home, and a pencil.

1. Open the book at a page with plenty of writing on it.
2. Run your finger down the left edge. Stop at each line that starts **a little way in**, or after a gap.
3. Count the paragraphs on the page. Then count the lines. Which number is bigger?
4. Read the first two paragraphs together. Say what each one is **mostly about** in a few words.

Page	How many paragraphs?	How many lines?	Paragraph 1 is about…

Grown-ups: some books leave a gap between paragraphs instead of an indent, and speech often starts a new line too. Both are fine to count. If you have time, try a second page from a different kind of book and compare.

3 Practise

A. How many **paragraphs** are on each page? Look for the new starts.

Page 1



____ paragraphs

Page 2



____ paragraphs

Page 3



____ paragraphs

What is a paragraph?

Name _____ Date _____

B. Read about hedgehogs. Then answer the questions.

Hedgehogs are small, prickly animals. Their backs are covered in thousands of sharp spines.

Hedgehogs eat beetles, worms and slugs. They look for their food at night.

In winter, hedgehogs hibernate. They sleep in a cosy nest of leaves until spring.

1. How many paragraphs? ____

2. How many sentences in paragraph 2? ____

3. Match each paragraph to its idea.

Paragraph 1 • • what they eat

Paragraph 2 • • winter

Paragraph 3 • • what they look like

C. True or false? Tick one box.

Sentence	True	False
A paragraph is a group of sentences about one idea.		
Each line of writing is a new paragraph.		
A new paragraph starts on a new line.		
A paragraph can only have one sentence.		

D. Write a paragraph of 2 or 3 sentences about your favourite animal. Start at the arrow, a little way in.

→

Challenge

Leo looks at Page 1 in A. He says, "There are 7 paragraphs, because there are 7 lines." Is he right? How could he check?

I can… Tick when you can.

- [ ] say that a paragraph is a group of sentences about one idea
- [ ] spot where a new paragraph starts on a new line
- [ ] count the paragraphs and say what each one is about