What Is This About?

Finding the main topic and paragraph focus



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Today we will...

WE ARE LEARNING TO

- Find what a whole text is mostly about
- Find what each paragraph is mostly about
- Tell the topic apart from small details

SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE

- ✓ I can name the main topic in a few words
- ✓ I can tell the focus of each paragraph



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Three Big Reading Words

Main Topic

What the whole text is mostly about.

Paragraph Focus

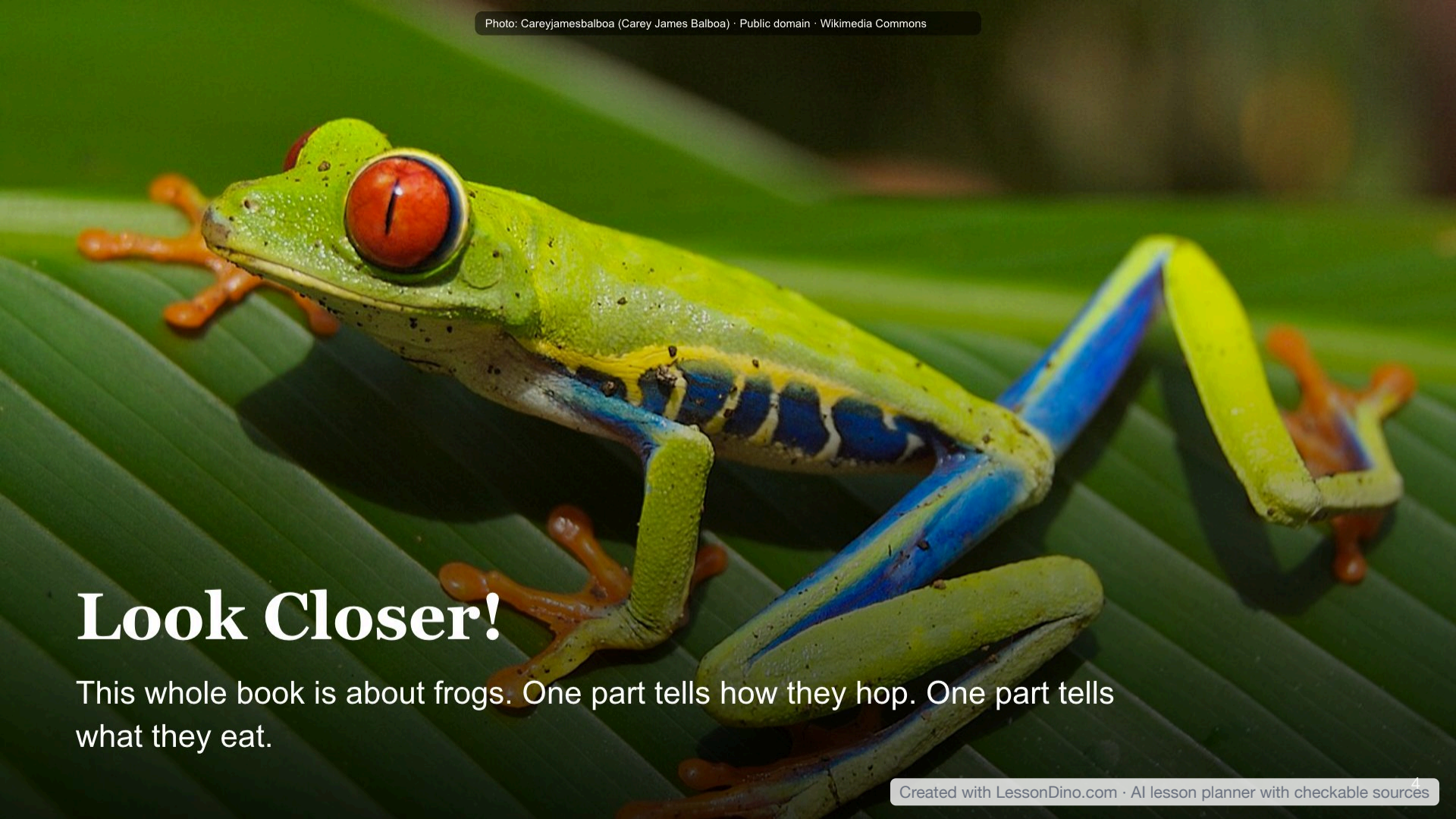
What one small part is mostly about.

Details

Small facts that tell more to help.



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Look Closer!

This whole book is about frogs. One part tells how they hop. One part tells what they eat.

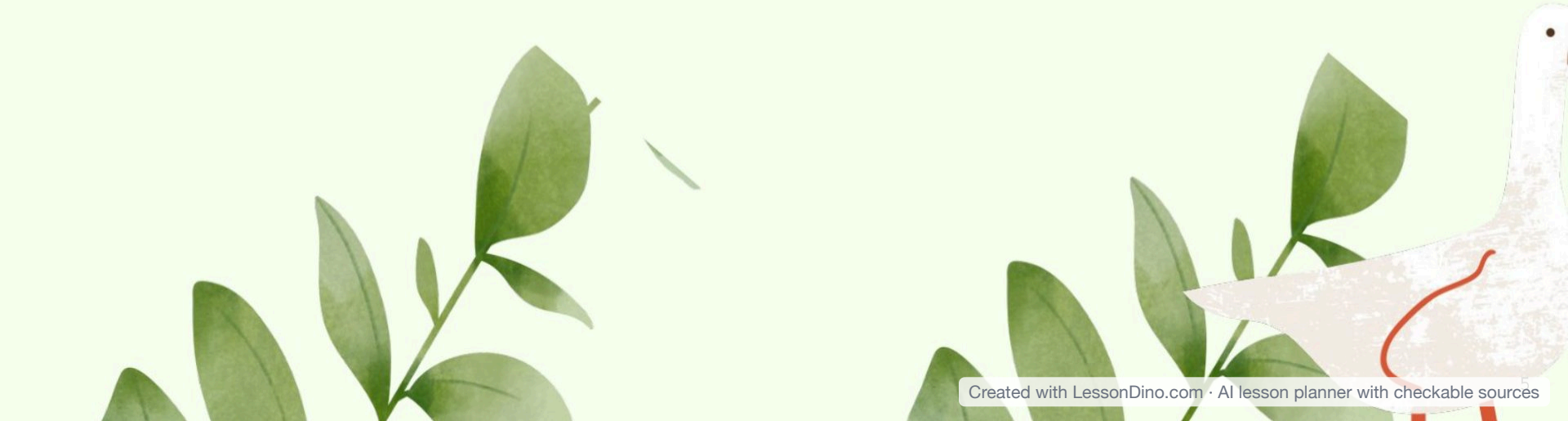
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You Choose!

Which would you most want to read about?

- **A** How animals live
- **B** How things move
- **C** How food grows

Vote with your hands, then explain why.



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Watch: What Is the Main Topic?



▶ 0:00 – 4:27

- Listen for what main topic means
- Clap when you hear the topic word

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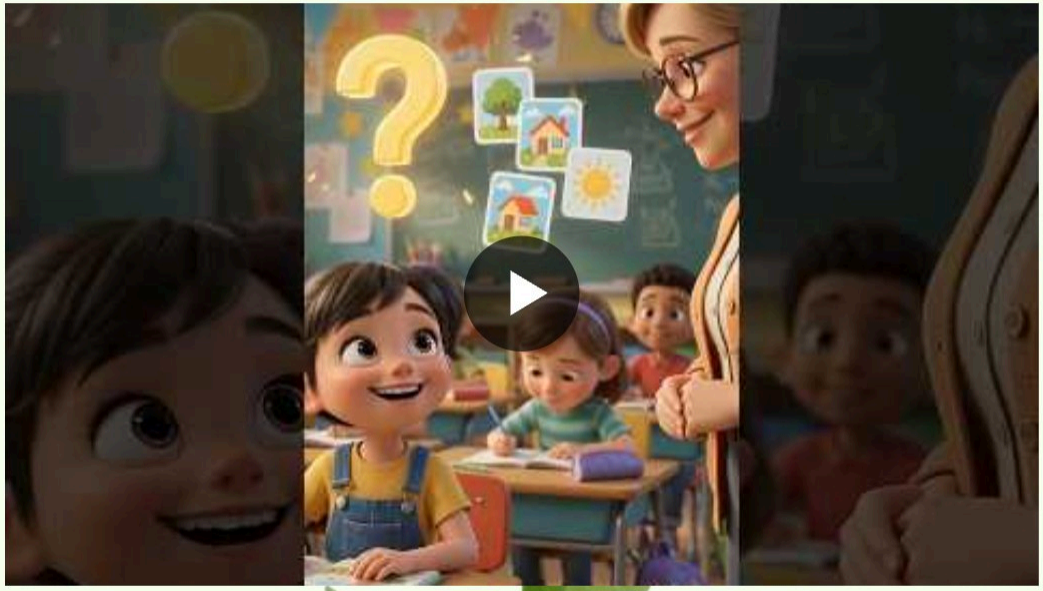
How Good Readers Find It

- Look at the title and pictures first
- Find words that show up a lot
- Say it in 2 or 3 words



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Watch: Big Idea and Little Helpers



▶ 0:00 – 2:24

- Watch how details help the big idea
- Think: topic or detail?

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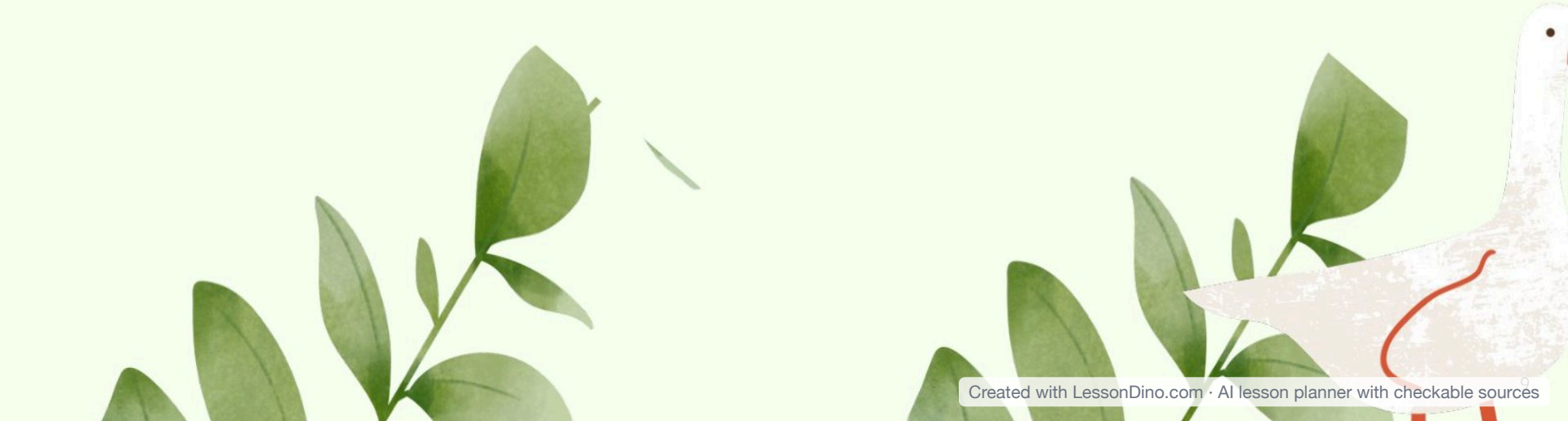
Your task

With a partner, read our parts about sea turtles and find each focus.

1. Part 1: Baby turtles hatch on warm sand at night and run to the water.
2. Part 2: Green turtles munch sea grass and small sea plants all day.
3. Tell your partner: each focus and the main topic of all parts.

10 min

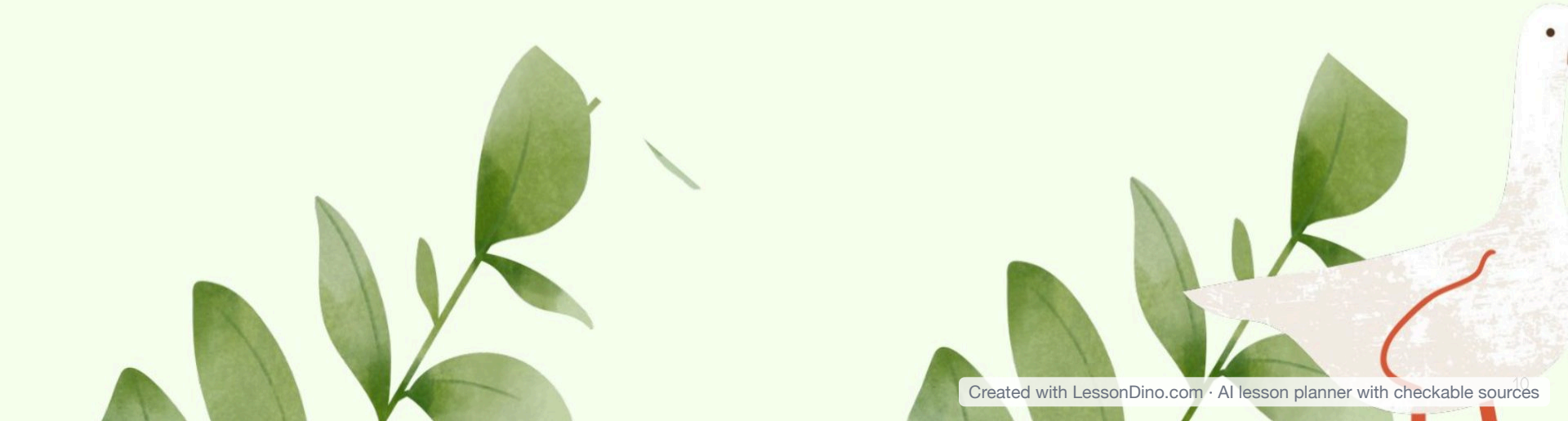
In pairs



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3 Steps to Find It

1. Ask: What is this part mostly about?
2. Look for the topic sentence and repeated words
3. Say the focus, then add parts for main topic



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What could this be?

All the pages are about bees. This page shows tiny gold rooms. What is this paragraph's focus?



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Exit ticket

1. Our main topic today was...

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2. One paragraph focus I found was...



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