**Finding the Main Idea**

Anne of Green Gables

by Lucy Maud Montgomery

*Canadian author Lucy Maud Montgomery wrote Anne of Green Gables in 1908. It’s the story of an orphan girl, Anne, who goes to live with Marilla and Matthew Cuthbert in their house called Green Gables. In this selection, a neighbor has entered the backyard of Green Gables.*

**Chapter I. Mrs. Rachel Lynde is Surprised**

With this Mrs. Rachel stepped out of the lane into the backyard of Green Gables. Very green and neat and precise was that yard, set about on one side with great patriarchal willows and the other with prim Lombardies. Not a stray stick nor stone was to be seen, for Mrs. Rachel would have seen it if there had been. Privately she was of the opinion that Marilla Cuthbert swept that yard over as often as she swept her house. One could have eaten a meal off the ground without overbrimming the proverbial peck of dirt.

**Write the main idea of the paragraph in the large oval below. Write the supporting ideas in the small ovals.**

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**Write the main idea of the paragraph in the large oval below. Write the supporting ideas in the small ovals.**

**Actual wording and supporting ideas will vary. Example of correct answers:**

**Green Gables’ backyard was neat and clean.**

**There were no sticks or stones scattered about.**

**The yard was so clean that someone could eat a meal off the ground.**

**Marilla swept the yard as much as the house.**