Main Idea and Supporting Details

Name: _____ Date: _____

Instructions: Read each paragraph carefully. Identify the main idea and write it in the space provided. Then list three supporting details from the paragraph.

Paragraph 1: Kiwi birds are unique to New Zealand and have many special features. Unlike most birds, kiwis cannot fly because they have very small wings. They have long, thin beaks that help them search for insects and worms in the soil. Kiwis also have nostrils at the end of their beaks, which is unusual for birds. These special characteristics make the kiwi one of the most interesting birds in the world.

Main Idea:

_____

Supporting Details:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Paragraph 2: The library is an excellent place for students to study and learn. It has thousands of books on every topic imaginable, from science and history to fiction and poetry. The library also provides computers with internet access for research projects. Additionally, librarians are available to help students find information and choose appropriate books. Many libraries even offer quiet study spaces where students can concentrate on their homework.

Main Idea:

_____

Supporting Details:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Paragraph 3: Recycling helps protect our environment in many ways. When we recycle paper, plastic, and glass, we reduce the amount of rubbish that goes into landfills. Recycling also saves natural resources like trees and oil that are used to make new products. Furthermore, recycling uses less energy than creating items from raw materials. By recycling regularly, each person can make a positive difference to our planet.

Main Idea:

Supporting Details:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____