



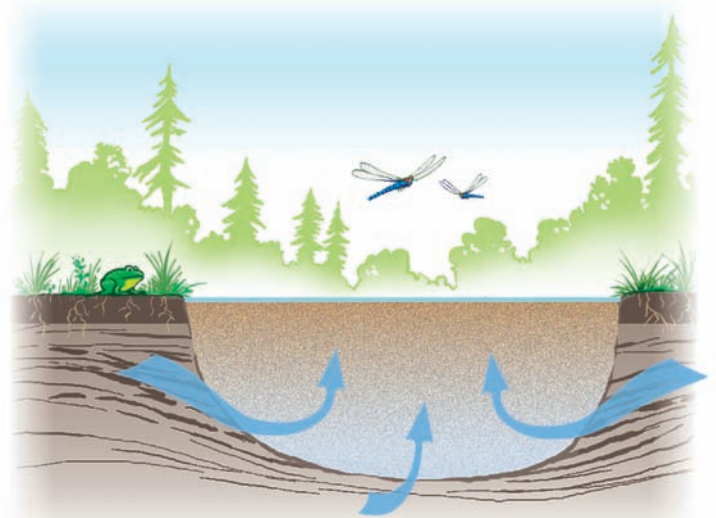
## Writer's Tip

- A topic sentence tells what an article is mostly about.
- Supporting details give more information about the topic.

How does regular sand turn into quicksand? It takes certain conditions to create quicksand.

The sand is usually formed into a pit near the water. The pit is shaped like a bowl. Then the nearby water seeps into the bottom of the bowl. It may force its way through underground cracks. The walls of the bowl are made out of dense mud to keep the water inside. Otherwise, the water would easily be able to drain from the bowl.

Then, as the bowl fills up, the mix of sand and water turns into a thick, slippery soup. The mixture is too thin to walk on and too thick to wade through. That makes it quicksand!



## Topic Sentence/Supporting Details

- ▶ Reread the passage. Underline the topic sentence. Circle the supporting details. Then write them on the lines below.

Topic Sentence \_\_\_\_\_

Supporting Details

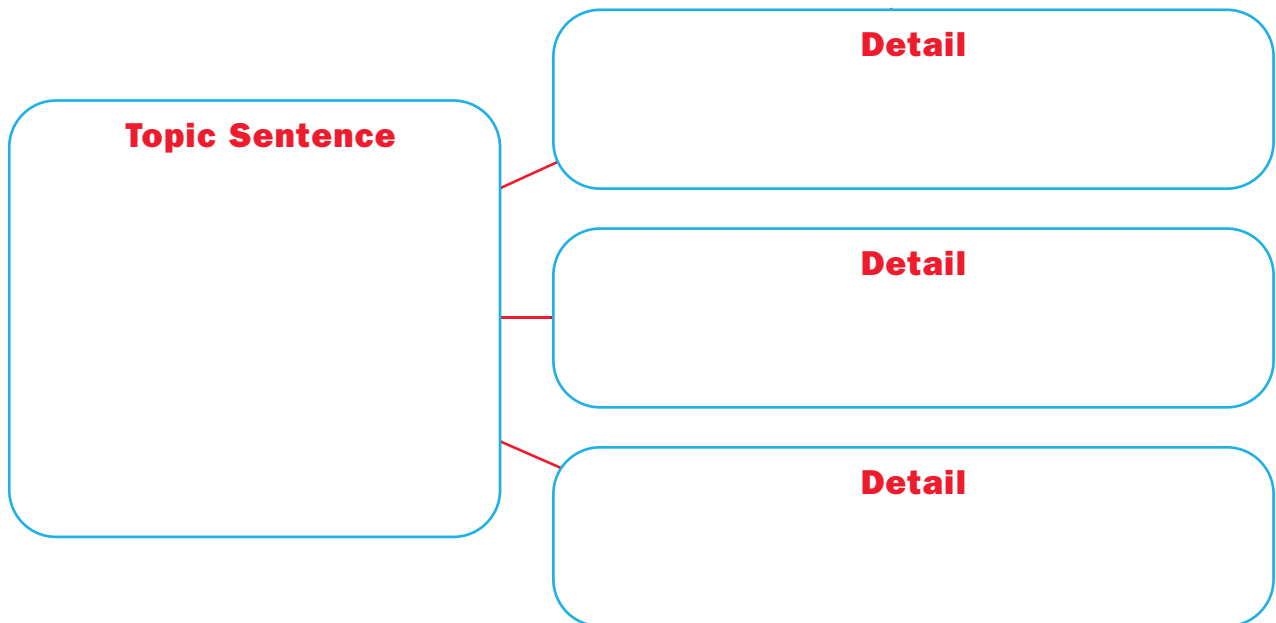
① The sand is usually formed into a pit near the water.

② \_\_\_\_\_

③ \_\_\_\_\_

## Your Turn

- ▶ Think of a topic you would like to write an information article about. It might be something you have learned about in nature, at home, or in school. Fill in the chart to organize your ideas.



- ▶ Use your graphic organizer to write an opening for your article. Include a topic sentence and a few details.