



Cause and effect

Reading Comprehension Worksheet

Practice

A parent or tutor should read to the student and help the student to record their answers.

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**Cause and effect** are about how one thing can cause something else to happen.

The **cause** is *why* something happened.

The **effect** is *what* happened.

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Listen to the story of Little Bear. Think about *why* things happened the way they did.

Little Bear lived with his mom and dad in a cozy little cave in the woods. He liked to climb trees. He liked to build little houses out of sticks and leaves. Sometimes his whole family would go for a picnic under a big tree beside the river. Picnic days were Little Bear's favorite days!

At bedtime, Little Bear's mom would read him a story. His dad would come in to tell him good night. Little Bear always asked them to leave the bedroom door open a crack. He was just a little bit afraid of the dark.

It was picnic day! They spread out the picnic blanket under the big tree. They had sandwiches and fruit salad. Little Bear climbed the tree, and played in the shallow part of the river.

When it started to get dark, Little Bear's dad helped him catch lightening bugs. They put them in a glass jar that had a few holes punched in the top for air.

That night, Little Bear's mom read him a story. His dad came in to say good night. His dad put the jar of lightening bugs next to Little Bear's bed. They glowed softly in the dark. Little Bear's dad closed the door and smiled. His idea had worked.

Circle the most likely **cause** of each of these things that happened.

effect	cause
1. At bedtime, why did Little Bear ask to have his door left open a crack?	Little Bear liked the stories his mom read him at bedtime.
	Little Bear was a little bit afraid of the dark.

effect	cause
2. Why did Little Bear climb the big tree on the day of the picnic?	Little Bear liked to climb trees.
	Picnic days were Little Bear's favorite days.

effect	cause
3. Why did Little Bear's dad help him catch lightening bugs at the picnic?	The lightening bugs would light Little Bear's room a little at bedtime.
	At bedtime, Little Bear's mom read him a story.

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4. Here is an effect: Little Bear's dad smiled as he closed Little Bear's bedroom door.  
What might have been the cause?

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### **Answer Key**

1. Little Bear was a little bit afraid of the dark.
2. Little Bear liked to climb trees.
3. The lightening bugs would light Little Bear's room a little at bedtime.
4. Accept any reasonable response, such as, he hoped the lightning bugs would help Little Bear be less afraid.