

Cause and effect

Grade 3 Reading Worksheet

The **cause** is why something happened.

For example:

Myra couldn't fall asleep last night.

The **effect** is what happened.

For example:

Myra is very tired today.

1. Read the story once and think about cause and effect:

Today was the day of our class field trip to the city museum! I had been excited for weeks. I packed my backpack with a notebook and a snack, ready to see dinosaurs, old treasures and space exhibits.

When we arrived, our teacher, Mrs. Carter, gave us one important rule: "Stay with your group at all times." I nodded, but as soon as we stepped inside, my eyes widened. The museum was huge!

Right in front of me stood a massive T. rex skeleton. I wanted to get a closer look, so I walked over to it without thinking. I was so busy looking at the dinosaur, I didn't hear my class leave.



When I turned around, my classmates were gone. My heart started to race. I had walked away without noticing, and now I was lost. I took a deep breath. “Stay calm,” I told myself. I started walking down a hallway to find them, but the museum had so many rooms, I only got more confused.

Then, I saw a museum worker standing near a big map. I asked him for help, and he pointed to the planetarium, where my class was going next. I followed his directions and hurried past the space exhibits. Just as I reached the planetarium doors, another worker stopped me. He saw I was alone and asked if I was lost.

I quickly told him what happened. He smiled. “Let’s check inside together,” he said. He opened the door, and right away, I saw my class watching a show about the stars.

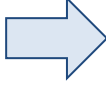
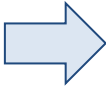

I slipped into an empty seat just as Mrs. Carter turned to check on us. Now that I was back with my group, I felt better.

“Where were you?” my classmate whispered. “I almost told Mrs. Carter!”

“Never mind,” I replied. “I’m back now!”

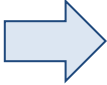
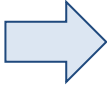
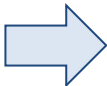
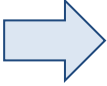
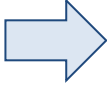
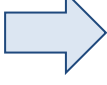



2. Read the story a second time and underline the causes and circle the effects.
3. Fill in this chart with at least three examples of cause and effect that you found in the story:

Cause	Effect
	
	
	

Answers

Answers may include any of the following:

Cause		Effect
I was excited about the museum and got distracted by the dinosaur skeleton.		I walked away from my group without noticing.
I didn't hear my class leaving.		When I looked around, they were gone.
I walked down a hallway to find them.		I got even more lost because the museum had so many rooms.
I asked a museum worker for help.		He told me where my class was, so I knew where to go.
I followed the worker's directions to the planetarium.		I almost reached my class.
Another worker saw me alone.		He stopped me to ask if I was lost.
The worker helped me check inside the planetarium.		I found my class and sat with them.