

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:

Maya sat at the kitchen table, staring at the big, chocolate brownie on her plate. It was the last one from the batch her older brother had baked. "Go ahead," he said with a grin. "I used a special recipe."



She took a big bite. The brownie was soft, gooey and delicious. When she chewed, something felt... strange. A tingly feeling spread from her toes to her head. She grabbed the table. It felt smaller. In fact, everything did!

The chair creaked under her. Her knees bumped the table. Then—CRACK! The chair broke! Maya jumped up and gasped. The ceiling was right above her head! She looked down at her brother, who now seemed tiny.

"Um... I think something's wrong," she said.

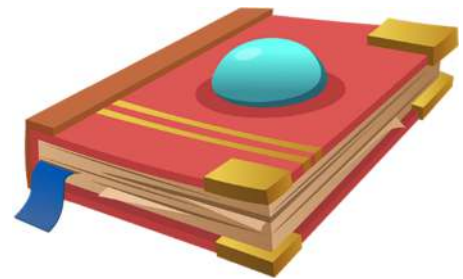
Her brother's eyes widened. "Whoa! That brownie actually worked!"

"Worked?!" Maya's voice boomed through the house.

He held up an old, ripped cookbook. "I found this in Grandma's attic. It has a recipe called Brownies of Bigness! I thought it meant they'd be extra chocolatey!"

Maya groaned. "Extra chocolatey? I'm 10 feet tall!" She took a step. The floor shook. The door was way too small for her. "What do we do now?"

Her brother flipped through the book. "Okay... If I read this right, the magic should wear off in a few hours. For now, you probably need to stay outside."



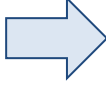
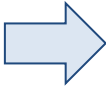

That was not easy. Maya sat in the backyard because she couldn't fit in the house. She knocked over the mailbox by accident. Birds landed on her head like she was a tree.

Finally, after what felt like forever, the tingly feeling came back. Slowly, Maya shrank back to her normal size. She sighed in relief. "I'm. Never. Eating. Your. Magic. Brownies. Again."

Her brother grinned. "Fair enough. Admit it, though... that was kind of cool."

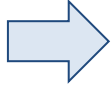
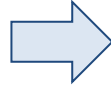
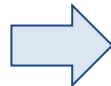
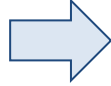

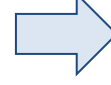
Maya laughed. "Maybe, but next time, just make normal brownies please."

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
Maya ate a brownie that her brother made.		She started growing quickly.
The chair couldn't hold her growing size.		It broke beneath her.
The recipe had a spell called Brownies of Bigness.		Maya became 10 feet tall.
She was too big for the house.		She had to wait in the backyard.
The magic wore off after a few hours.		Maya shrank back to normal.
Maya learned her lesson about eating mysterious recipes.		She decided she's never eating magic brownies again.