Why Did That Happen?

Finding cause and effect in reading



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Today we will...

WE ARE LEARNING TO

- find causes and effects in a text
- put events and steps in order
- use time and link words

SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE

✓ I can say what happened and why

✓ I can use first, next, because, so





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Cause and effect map



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Cause first, effect next

- Cause = why something happened.
- Effect = what happened after.
- Signal words link them together.

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What do you like to find?

Which chain would you most want to read about?

A. How a seed grows

B. How a storm changes a town

C. How to build a toy step by step

Vote with your hands, then explain why.





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Watch the story chains



▶ 0:00 – 5:00

- Listen for why it happened.
- Spot what happened next.

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BIG IDEA

Every effect has a cause that came first.



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Catch the signal words



▶ 0:00 – 4:50

- Spot time words: first, next, last.
- Spot link words: because, so.

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Your task

Put the seed steps in order and explain why with because.

1. Read: rain soaks soil, roots grow, sprout pops up.
2. Number them first, next, last in order.
3. Tell your partner: sprout popped because ___.

10 min

In pairs

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Word detectives



Time words

First, next, then, and last show order.



Cause words

Because, since, and due to show why.



Effect words

So, then, and as a result show what happened.



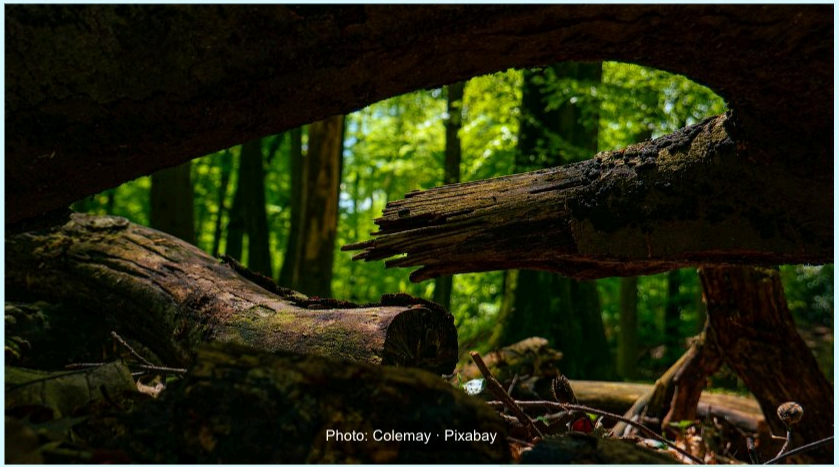
Chain words

Each effect can start the next cause.

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Think, pair, share

First, strong wind blew. Next, a branch fell. Last, the path was blocked. With your partner, explain the chain using first, next, because and so.



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True or false?

A cause tells why something happened.

An effect happens before its cause.

First, next, and last show time order.

A text can only have one cause and one effect.

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