Name _____

Cause and Effect

- A **cause** is why something happens. An **effect** is what happens.
- Sometimes clue words such as *because, so,* and *since* signal causes and effects. Other times you must figure out the causes and effects for yourself.

Directions Read the passage. Then fill in the chart below.

Different natural disasters can happen for different reasons. Floods are a natural effect of heavy rains, melting snow, or ocean waves. Those rains and waves can be the product of another natural disaster: hurricanes. In turn, hurricanes form where there is low air pressure and warm ocean water.

Wildfires are also considered natural disasters. They can be caused by natural occurrences, such as lightning striking the ground. But wildfires can also be caused by people. A simple mistake, such as failing to put out a campfire, can lead to an uncontrollable fire.

Cause	Effect
1. heavy rains, melting snow, ocean waves	
2.	heavy rains and waves
3.	formation of hurricanes
4. lightning	

5. On a separate sheet of paper, explain how humans can cause a natural disaster and how you might avoid such a disaster.

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School + Home

Home Activity Your child identified causes and effects in a brief passage. Work with your child to identify the cause and effect of an accident you know about.

LIVEWORKSHEETS