Cause and effect

Reading Comprehension Worksheet

Practice

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.

Read about the water cycle again, and think about **cause** and **effect** as you read.

The Water Cycle

You can't see it, but the water cycle is always in motion on the earth. This series of events goes round and round, again and again, providing clean, fresh water for the land and seas. As water goes through this cycle, it is sometimes solid ice, sometimes liquid water, and sometimes a gas called water vapor.

The energy that drives the water cycle is heat. When heat is added to ice, the ice melts into water. When heat is added to water, the water evaporates, turning from liquid into gas. When heat is taken away from water vapor, the vapor condenses, turning from gas into liquid. When heat is taken away from water, the water freezes, turning from liquid to solid.

The heat from the sun warms the water in oceans and rivers. The water changes into water vapor that rises into the air. High above the earth, the water vapor cools and becomes tiny particles of water that create clouds. As the clouds gather more and more particles of water, the water falls as rain or snow, which are two forms of precipitation. This precipitation is absorbed into the ground or is added to the water in oceans, lakes, and rivers. The cycle is always, constantly, in process, everywhere in the world.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

What is the **effect** of each **cause**?

1. Water in the oceans and rivers is heated by the sun.
   A. condensation
   B. evaporation
   C. precipitation

2. Water vapor begins to cool as it rises into the air.
   A. condensation
   B. evaporation
   C. precipitation

3. Particles of water in a cloud gather to form drops heavy enough to fall to earth.
   A. condensation
   B. evaporation
   C. precipitation

4. The water cycle is always in motion on the earth.
   A. Water is absorbed into the earth.
   B. Clean, fresh water is provided for the land and seas of earth.
   C. Heat is the energy that drives the water cycle.

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5. Here is a **cause**: Heat is added to water.
   What is the **effect**?

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6. Here is a **cause**: Heat is taken away from ice.
   What is the **effect**?

LIVEWORKSHEETS