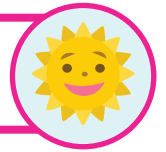




First Day of School: Cause and Effect



Name: _____

Date: _____

As you read the story below, think about cause and effect. Underline examples of cause and circle examples of effect. Then fill out the T-chart with the examples of cause and effect you identified in the story.

REMEMBER: **Cause** is the thing that makes something else happen. **Effect** is the thing that happens.

I woke up with a start. Something was beeping loudly in my ear. I stretched my arm out, and groggily pushed the snooze button on my alarm clock. "Why does school start so early?" I mumbled into my pillow before slowly drifting back to sleep. Twenty minutes later, my mom rushed into my room. "What are you doing in bed?" she screeched. "You're going to be late for your first day of school!" My eyes snapped open. It was the first day of school! I jumped out of bed and bolted to my closet where I grabbed some clothes and hastily put them on. I snatched my backpack from the chair by the front door before running towards the bus stop. But as I approached the bus stop, I saw it pulling away from the curb. I groaned as I watched it disappear down the street. Now I would have to walk to school.

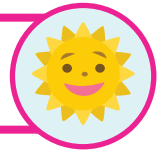
I decided to take a shortcut through Mr. Henry's field, even though there was a big fence and a sign that said "NO TRESPASSING" in big red letters. I looked around to see if Mr. Henry was out before jumping over the fence. But, as I jumped, my backpack got caught in the wire barbs that lined the top of the fence. I tugged with all my might, trying to get it free, but it was no use, it was stuck. I would have to leave it and come back for it after school. I jogged across the field, hoping Mr. Henry wouldn't see me and ducked through the gate on the other side.

Phew! I saw school just ahead now! I continued jogging, and reached the front steps just as the first bell rang. I breathed a sigh of relief and swung open the front door. As I walked inside, I heard a burst of laughter. I saw a group of kids pointing at me and another group just staring with their mouths agape. "What is it now?" I wondered, looking down at my shoes. That's when I noticed it -- I wasn't wearing shoes! My mismatched socks were covered in straw from my shortcut through the field. Embarrassed, I quickly ran towards my classroom, but my socks were slippery on the tile floor and I fell, SPLAT! right onto my back.

"This is the worst day ever!" I muttered, lying on the floor. Just as I thought I should give up and go home, my best friend Mayra spotted me. She ran over and helped me up. "Looks like it was a rough morning," she chuckled. I nodded glumly. "I have some extra shoes in my locker," she offered. Within minutes, I was wearing shoes and my day was looking much brighter.



First Day of School: Cause and Effect



Name: _____

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Example: Something was beeping loudly in my ear ---> I woke up with a start
(cause) (effect)

Cause	Effect