

Third Grade Cause and Effect

One of the keys to comprehension is that students must be actively involved. Reading comprehension is an active process that needs to engage the reader. As a reader, you grasp meaning by thinking during the act of reading. Good readers know how to recognize cause and effect in a reading passage by thinking about **what** happens and **why** it happens. The students are learning that the **cause** is the reason that something happens. The **effect** is the result, or what happens because of the cause. They are learning “clue words” that may signal cause and effect. These words include; *so, so that, since, because and if*. The students are also learning that a cause may have several effects, and an effect may have more than one cause. When students successfully recognize cause and effect relationships, comprehension is increased. Students use the understanding of this relationship in all subject areas, day to day living and interacting with others.