The Big Storm

Grade 3

Name _____ Date _____

Remember: A **cause** is **why** something happens. An **effect** is **what** happens. Signal words: *because, so, since, as a result*.

Ask: What happened? (effect) → Why did it happen? (cause)

The Big Storm



On Thursday night, a huge snowstorm swept across town. Snow fell so fast that the roads disappeared under white blankets. Because the roads were dangerous, the school sent a message that classes were cancelled the next day.

Leo cheered when he heard the news. But at seven o'clock that evening, the lights flickered and went out. Heavy snow had pulled down a power line on their street, so the whole neighbourhood was dark.

Without power, the furnace stopped working, and the house began to get cold. Dad lit the fireplace, and everyone gathered around it in blankets. Since the TV didn't work, Mom found an old board game in the closet. Leo won three games in a row and laughed so hard his stomach hurt.

The fridge wasn't working either, so Dad packed the milk and cheese into a cooler and set it on the back porch in the snow.

The next morning, a repair crew fixed the power line, and the lights came back on. Leo felt a little sad. As a result of the storm, he had discovered that the best night of the winter didn't need any electricity at all.

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1. Check your understanding

Circle the best answer.

1. What caused school to be cancelled?

(a) The roads were dangerous because of snow.
(b) The teacher was sick.
(c) It was a holiday.

2. What caused the power to go out?

(a) The family turned it off.
(b) Heavy snow pulled down a power line.
(c) The furnace broke.

3. What was an effect of the furnace not working?

(a) The house got cold.
(b) The TV broke.
(c) School was cancelled.

4. Why did Dad put the milk on the porch?

(a) To give it to the neighbours
(b) The fridge was not working, and the snow kept it cold.
(c) To throw it away

2. Write your answer

Answer in complete sentences. Use details from the text.

1. **Find one sentence with the word "so". What is the cause and what is the effect?**

2. **What was the effect of the TV not working?**

3. **Why did Leo feel a little sad when the lights came back on?**

Answer Key

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1. Check your understanding

1. What caused school to be cancelled?

- **a** **The roads were dangerous because of snow.**
- **b** The teacher was sick.
- **c** It was a holiday.

2. What caused the power to go out?

- **a** The family turned it off.
- **b** **Heavy snow pulled down a power line.**
- **c** The furnace broke.

3. What was an effect of the furnace not working?

- **a** **The house got cold.**
- **b** The TV broke.
- **c** School was cancelled.

4. Why did Dad put the milk on the porch?

- **a** To give it to the neighbours
- **b** **The fridge was not working, and the snow kept it cold.**
- **c** To throw it away

2. Write your answer

Sample answers. Students' wording will vary.

1. **Find one sentence with the word "so". What is the cause and what is the effect?**
   Heavy snow had pulled down a power line, so the neighbourhood was dark. Cause: the power line came down. Effect: it was dark.
2. **What was the effect of the TV not working?**
   Mom found an old board game, and the family played together.
3. **Why did Leo feel a little sad when the lights came back on?**
   He had so much fun during the storm night with his family that he didn't want it to end.