*Session 16*

**Focus**: Good readers look for causes and effects within a sequence of events

**Materials**: student’s books, pencils, journal/stickies

**Genre**: Nonfiction (history or biography book)

**Before Reading Mentor says**:

Last week we paid close attention to the sequence of events in a nonfiction book. We noticed how an event can lead up to another event. Today, we are going to look for causes and effects while we read.

Can you tell me what a cause is? (Wait for their answer). A cause is the reason WHY something happens. Can you tell me what an effect is? (Wait for the answer). An effect is what happens after the cause.

There are causes and effects that happen to us in our own lives every day. Let’s play a quick game of guess the cause and guess the effect. I’m going to give you a cause and you think of an effect that might happen after it.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| CAUSE | EFFECT |
| You forget to set your alarm clock | ? |
| You study a lot for your math test | ? |
| It starts to rain during recess | ? |
| The Titanic hit an iceberg  | ? |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| CAUSE | EFFECT |
| ? | You win a gold medal at the Olympics |
| ? | You get a consequence in Art class |

(You can also play a cause and effect game located in Google Drive for Session 16)

**During reading**:

Let’s take out a nonfiction book from your book baggie. It can be a biography, a history story, or a book about animals. As we read, I’m going to help you find causes and effects.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Prompting Questions** | **Writing Activities** |
| What event happens first in the book? Does this person’s choice cause something to happen? What?What caused \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to happen in the story?How is (earlier action) connected to (later action)?What if \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ had not happened? Would there be a different effect? | Journal Table (example below) OR Worksheet template:Title: Spiders

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| CAUSE | EFFECT |
| Spiders have colors that can blend into the ground | They are hard to spot |
| Spiders have poor eyesight | They have to use their sense of touch more |
| Spider bodies can’t stretch when they grow | They shed their skin |

 |

**After reading**: Great job looking for causes and effects today! Can you remind me what a cause is? Can you repeat to me what an effect is? Remember, there are causes and effects in many different types of nonfiction books, so it is important to be on the lookout for them!

**Closing**: Thank you for working with me today. I enjoyed our time together and I am so proud of the work you are sharing with me. I will return next (day of the week) to work with you