

Table of Contents



Introduction 6

Making Inferences 10

Rocket Man! (3.0–3.5) 12



Quiet Creatures:
Two Poems (3.0–3.5) 16

Kids Help Pass
Safety Laws (3.5–5.0) 20

The Talking Otter (3.5–5.0) 24

She Climbed to the Top (4.0–4.5) 28

Who Says Ball Games Are
for the Birds? (4.0–4.5) 32

Written by Anonymous (4.0–4.5) 36

Lights! Camera! Invention! (5.0–5.5) ... 40

Identifying Main Idea & Details ... 44

Giants of the Earth (3.0–3.5) 46

Long Ago in Timbuktu (3.0–3.5) 50

Astronauts Walk on
the Moon (3.5–5.0) 54

Rain-Forest Medicines (3.5–5.0) 58

Baseball Is a Hit in Japan (4.0–4.5) ... 62

May You Have a Long Life (4.5–6.0) ... 66

The Truth About AIDS (4.5–6.0) 70

Hail to the Chief! (5.0–5.5) 74

Not Just Black or White (5.0–5.5) 78

The Real Dracula (5.0–5.5) 82

Old Bones Dug Up (5.0–5.5) 86

Creatures of the Deep (6.0–6.5) 90

Recognizing Cause & Effect 94

One Cool-Looking
Cowhand (3.0–3.5) 96

Americans Discover TV (3.0–3.5) 100

Collectors Strike It Rich! (4.5–6.0) 104

Victory at Sea (4.5–6.0) 108

The Earth Heats Up (4.5–6.0) 112

Fire in Their Eyes (5.0–5.5) 116

Children at Work (5.0–5.5) 120

The California Gold Rush (5.0–5.5) ... 124

Deborah Samson,
Secret Soldier (6.0–6.5) 128





Table of Contents

Identifying Problem & Solution . . . 132

Stories That Reach Toward the Sky (3.5–5.0)	134
A Bridge to a New World (3.5–5.0)	138
Saving the Sphinx (4.0–4.5)	142
Scum Energy (5.0–5.5)	146
Condor Comeback (6.0–6.5)	150
Exploring Jupiter (6.0–6.5)	154

Categorizing 158

The King's Things (3.0–3.5)	160
What's It Like to Live in China? (3.0–3.5)	164
Unsolved Mysteries (4.0–4.5)	168
The Galápagos— Can They Survive? (4.5–6.0)	172
What's the Word? (5.0–5.5)	176
Who Dropped the Ball? (6.0–6.5)	180



Sequencing 184

Triathlon: The Sport That Does It All (3.0–3.5)	186
Life in the Comics (3.0–3.5)	190
Driving Through Time (3.0–3.5)	194
Marie Curie: A Woman Ahead of Her Time (4.0–4.5)	198
Lost and Found: The First Fort (4.0–4.5)	202
The Case of the Missing Globe (5.0–5.5)	206
Jim Carrey: Class Clown Makes Good (5.0–5.5)	210
Making Stories Come Alive (6.0–6.5)	214

Comparing & Contrasting 218

Yo-Yos Are Forever (3.0–3.5)	220
Giving TV the Boot! (3.0–3.5)	224
Sports: For Fun or Money? (4.5–6.0)	228
The Water Festival (4.5–6.0)	232
Cartoons Come to Life (4.5–6.0)	236
Foods With a Difference (4.5–6.0)	240



Table of Contents

Summarizing 244

Presidential Pets and Kids (3.0–3.5) . . . 246

History of Marbles (3.0–3.5) . . . 250

Flying Friends of the
Air Force (4.0–4.5) . . . 254

Flying Machine (4.5–6.0) . . . 258

Fighting for Their Lives (4.5–6.0) . . . 262

Crunchy Critters (5.0–5.5) . . . 266

Children Who Ruled (5.0–5.5) . . . 270

Friendly Rooms (6.0–6.5) . . . 274

Pedal Power (6.0–6.5) . . . 278

The Story That Stretched (6.0–6.5) . . . 282

Drawing Conclusions 286

Mary McLeod Bethune (3.0–3.5) . . . 288

Does Music Make
You Smarter? (3.0–3.5) . . . 292

Grant Hill: Straight
Shooter (3.5–5.0) . . . 296

Surf's Up—Way Up! (4.0–4.5) . . . 300

Coral Crisis (4.5–6.0) . . . 304

A Trash Collector's Work
Is Never Done (5.0–5.5) . . . 308

The Animals of the
Arctic Tundra (5.0–5.5) . . . 312

Wildlife for Sale (6.0–6.5) . . . 316

So, How About
Those Vikings? (6.0–6.5) . . . 320

High-Tech Highways (6.0–6.5) . . . 324

Distinguishing Fact & Opinion 328

A Panda for a Pet? (3.5–5.0) . . . 330

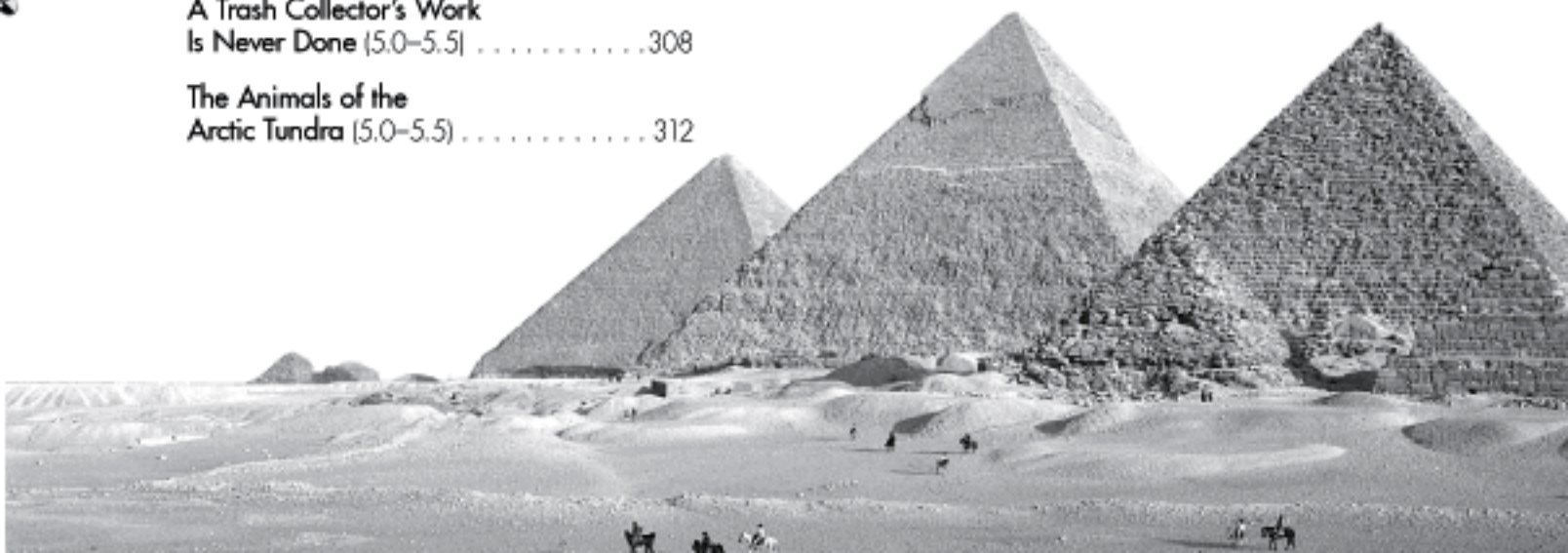
Faithfully Ours (3.5–5.0) . . . 334

Cleopatra's City—
Lost & Found (4.0–4.5) . . . 338

Searching for the
"Real" King Arthur (5.0–5.5) . . . 342

Rock Around the Clock (6.0–6.5) . . . 346

Answer Key 350



Recognizing Cause & Effect

❖ When reading a story or an article, it's helpful to think about events and what caused them.

- As you read, ask yourself: "What happened?" and "Why?"
- The answer to "What happened?" tells you the **effect**.
- The answer to "Why?" tells you the **cause**.

❖ Read this paragraph. Look for the answers to these **cause/effect** questions:

- What happened to penguins' colors?
- Why did this happen?

Effect

The first sentence tells you **what happened**:

Penguins developed a similar color pattern.

Cause

This sentence tells **why**:

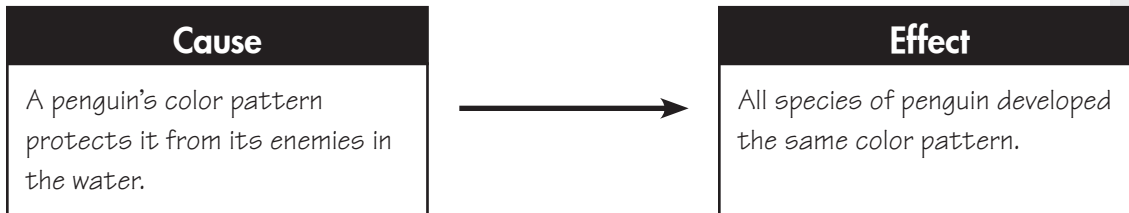
Their color pattern protects penguins from their enemies in the water.

Why Penguins Wear Tuxedos

All species of penguin developed a similar color pattern. They have black or dark blue feathers on their backs and white feathers on their chests and stomachs. Scientists think that this basic pattern evolved because it protected penguins so well from their enemies, such as seals, in the water. From below, its white chest and stomach hide a penguin in the glare of sunlight. From above, its dark back makes a penguin hard to see against the darkness of the water.



❖ You could chart the **cause/effect** in this article like this:



Your Turn

❖ Read this story. Look for **causes** and **effects**. Make a chart like the one above.

Wild, Wild Snowstorm!

A blizzard is a wild snowstorm. It snows for hours and hours. Sometimes, it snows for days! The air is freezing cold. Strong gusts of wind make trees sway and cause high snowdrifts. These drifts can bury cars. It might take days, even weeks, to uncover them!

Swirling snows cause whiteouts. That's when the sky and ground look like a big white sheet! It's easy to get lost in a whiteout.

Protect yourself and your pets during a blizzard. Stay inside until the snow stops. Then go out and have some fun!

