Jack was alone in the house. He heard a strange sound upstairs. He tiptoed up the stairs and peeked into his bedroom. A big moth was fluttering against the window.

EFFECT: Jack tiptoed upstairs.

What was the CAUSE?

- a) He heard a strange sound.
- b) He wanted to go to bed.
- A moth was on the stairs.

Bruce dared Katy to go into the dark cave. Katy wanted to seem brave. She crawled in and looked around. It really wasn't so scary after all.

CAUSE: Katy wanted to seem brave.

What was the EFFECT?

- a) She saw Bruce in the cave.
- b) She went into the cave.
- c) She thought the cave was scary.

Looking through the trees, we saw a campfire. We were surprised. "That's strange," said Stu. "Nobody ever comes here but us!"

CAUSE: We saw a campfire.

What was the EFFECT?

- a) Nobody comes to the woods.
- b) We were surprised.
- c) We ran through the trees.

Cause and Effect Reading Comprehension Practice Cards provide an easy way to help students develop a critical reading skill. Each card in this set has been leveled for a 3.5–5.0 reading level.

The Cause and Effect cards consist of a leveled reading passage, a statement of a cause or an effect from the passage, and a prompt asking the student to choose the corresponding cause or effect from multiple choice answers.

You may want to introduce the set of cards to the students by making an overhead transparency of a few cards to work through as a class. Once students become familiar with the cards, they can use them independently as take-home practice, in a reading center, or as reading and responding practice in small groups. Each card features the answer on the reverse side for easy self-checking.

Continual practice with Cause and Effect cards reinforces a reading comprehension skill essential for all areas of study.