

SEQUENCE & CAUSE

Q3 • Wk1

Grade 4

Marcus Helps After the Storm

WISDOM

Helping others brings true happiness and makes a real difference.

preceptor reads aloud

DO THIS

► Read the passage carefully.

READ • read carefully — you will answer questions about this

- 1 Marcus woke to the sound of rain drumming hard against his bedroom window. Wind whooshed through the trees outside, bending them like dancers. His mom came in and said that a big storm was coming, so everyone should stay inside. Marcus felt a little scared, but he watched from the window as the storm rolled in. Lightning flashed across the dark sky, and thunder boomed so loudly that it shook the house. Then, just as quickly as it came, the storm moved past. When Marcus looked outside, he saw branches scattered across the street and leaves covering everything.
- 2 The next morning, Marcus and his dad went outside to see what the storm had done. Their neighbor Mr. Chen's fence was knocked down in three places. His mailbox lay sideways on the ground. Worst of all, a big tree branch had fallen across Mr. Chen's front porch. Mr. Chen was standing in his yard, looking sad and tired. He had hurt his back during the storm and wasn't sure how he would fix everything.
- 3 "Dad, can we help Mr. Chen?" Marcus asked. His father smiled and nodded. Marcus's dad called some neighbors, and soon they all came to help. Marcus couldn't lift the heavy branch, but he had an idea. He picked up fallen branches and sticks and made a neat pile. He swept leaves away from the path so Mr. Chen could walk safely. He even helped his little sister pull weeds from around the mailbox while they waited for the adults to put it back in place.
- 4 While everyone worked together, something wonderful happened. Mr. Chen's sad face turned into a big smile. He told Marcus that his help meant everything to him. Marcus felt warm and happy inside—even happier than if he had done something fun for himself.

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READ (continued) · keep reading

By afternoon, the fence was fixed, the mailbox was standing straight, and the big branch had been cut into pieces. The yard looked almost like new again. Mr. Chen brought out cold juice and cookies for everyone, and they sat together and talked. Marcus realized that helping someone else was one of the best feelings in the world.

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DO THIS

► Put the events in order and show what made them happen.

ORDER IT · number the events 1-4 in the order they happened

A big storm comes during the night, causing damage in the neighborhood.

The next morning, Marcus and his dad see that Mr. Chen's yard is damaged and Mr. Chen is sad.

Marcus asks his dad if they can help, and neighbors come together to fix the fence, mailbox, and clear the yard.

Mr. Chen smiles and thanks Marcus, and everyone celebrates their work with juice and cookies.

CAUSE · why it happened

EFFECT · what happened

RETELL · use the events to retell the story in your own words

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ANSWER KEY

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ORDER IT · number the events 1-4 in the order they happened

1

A big storm comes during the night, causing damage in the neighborhood.

2

The next morning, Marcus and his dad see that Mr. Chen's yard is damaged and Mr. Chen is sad.

3

Marcus asks his dad if they can help, and neighbors come together to fix the fence, mailbox, and clear the yard.

4

Mr. Chen smiles and thanks Marcus, and everyone celebrates their work with juice and cookies.

CAUSE · why it happened

A big storm came through the neighborhood

EFFECT · what happened

Mr. Chen's fence was knocked down, his mailbox fell sideways, and a tree branch fell on his porch.

RETELL · use the events to retell the story in your own words