

**Grade Level:** 2-5

**Subject:** Language Arts, Standard 3: Evaluation Strategies

**Duration:** One 40-minute class period

**Activity:** Record causes and effects from *Because of Winn-Dixie* on a graphic organizer.

**Description:** Students discuss the title of the book/movie and how it directly relates to cause and effect. Students find examples from the book/movie of causes and their effects.

**Objectives:** To identify causes and effects. To apply cause and effect to reading of other material, everyday life, history, etc.

**Materials:** Student worksheet, copy of *Because of Winn-Dixie*, transparency of graphic organizer

**Procedure:** Begin the lesson with a real-life example of cause and effect. For example, because it is raining today, there will be indoor recess. Solicit other cause/effect relationships from the class. Introduce the graphic organizer as a way to record causes and effects in an easy-to-read format. Write some of the solicited comments in the graphic organizer. Ask the students to briefly discuss in small groups why the title, *Because of Winn-Dixie*, is like cause/effect. Have each group share its findings. Provide a few examples to the class from *Because of Winn-Dixie*.

*Possible examples:*

- Because India Opal finds the dog in a grocery store, he is named Winn-Dixie.
- Because of the Civil War, Littmus Block lost most of his family.
- Because of Otis's guitar playing, the animals are mesmerized.

Ask the students to identify other causes and their effects in *Because of Winn-Dixie* on the worksheet.

**Adaptations:** Have students work in small groups or with partners to identify causes and effects. Complete the first graphic organizer as a class. Have the class recite chorally, "Because of Winn-Dixie...", then have students fill in the rest of the sentence with an effect.

**Assessment:** Provide the blank graphic organizer for students to use with examples from real life, history, and even math problems.

## Cause & Effect

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

The title, *Because of Winn-Dixie*, gives you a clue that things happen in the book/movie because of Winn-Dixie! Fill in the graphic organizers below to show some causes (what happens first) and their effects (what happens because of the cause) from the story. Sometimes one cause can lead to many effects, so there are special graphic organizers at the bottom of the page for you to use in those cases.

CAUSE



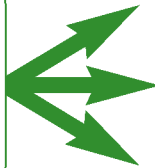
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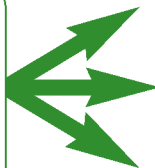
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