



Creek Clean-Up Brief

Name: _____

Date: _____

Class: _____

My level: ☐ Explorer ☐ Investigator ☐ Legend

Mission: The city council wants a short brief about how students saved Sunnyside Creek. Read the article, color-code the problem, its causes, and the solutions, then write the brief.

Big question: How do problem-solution and cause-effect structures organize an informational text?

★

Warm-up: Cause → effect

Finish each cause-effect chain.

It rained all night, so...

Because the store ran out of milk,...

Key vocabulary	
Problem	Something that needs fixing.
Cause	Why something happens.
Effect	What happens as a result.
Solution	A way to fix a problem.
Native plants	Plants that grow naturally in an area.

1

Box 1

Color-code it

In the simulator: Highlight the problem (), two causes (), and two solutions ().

What did you notice?

2

Box 2

Cause and effect chain

Put the cause-effect chain in order.

Put in order: Algae grows very fast · Algae uses up oxygen · Fewer fish can survive · Rain washes fertilizer into the creek

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Why flowers?

How do native flowers help the creek?

☐ Their roots soak up rainwater before it carries pollution to the creek ☐ They make the creek smell nice

☐ Fish eat them

3 Box 3

Write the brief

Write a brief for the city council.

Problem Start: "The problem was that..."

Causes Start: "This happened because..."

Solutions Start: "To solve it, students..."

4 Box 4

Legend: evidence it worked 🏆 Legend only

What evidence shows the solutions worked? Quote the text.



Exit ticket: answer the big question in your own words

How do problem-solution and cause-effect structures organize an informational text?

Completion code:

Shown on the last screen of the simulator.