

Name: _____ Date: _____

Fish Invaders

The writing prompt on page 13 says:

An aquarium has hired you to help educate the public about what to do with a pet fish that can no longer be cared for. Make a short video or poster on this topic. Be sure to include why it's important not to release pet fish into the wild.

Complete the following activity to help you think about cause and effect before creating your video or poster.

1. Based on the information in the articles, what should you do with a pet fish that can no longer be cared for?

2. Complete the sentence to make a general statement about why it's important not to release a pet fish into the wild:

Releasing a pet fish into the wild could lead to _____
 _____.

The sentence you completed has a "Cause and Effect" structure. This structure helps explain why something happens (CAUSE) and what happens as a result (EFFECT).

Below are some signal words that can help you recognize this structure while reading and use it in your own writing. Use them as you complete the activity on the following page.

CAUSE-AND-EFFECT SIGNAL WORDS

So	When	For this reason
Because	Therefore	As a result
Since	This led to	Due to
If/Then	Thus	Consequently

Directions: Complete the cause-and-effect relationships in the graphic organizer below, using details from "The Fish That's Eating the World" and "Invasion of the Giant Goldfish." Try to use signal words from page 1 in some of your responses. We completed one pair for you.

CAUSE	EFFECT
	Because of this, American pet stores began importing and selling lionfish decades ago.
Lionfish are not suited for life in tanks because they quickly outgrow them and eat their tank-mates.	As a result, people sometimes dump their unwanted pet lionfish into the Atlantic Ocean.
Lionfish eat enormous quantities of fish.	
In the wild, goldfish swim along the bottoms of rivers and lakes.	
	So millions of types of fish and plants are in danger of losing their food and shelter, and coastlines are in danger of losing their protection from storms.
Both lionfish and goldfish breed quickly.	