

THINKING WITH MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Video: Floods of Fury

*Cause-Effect Relationships Nonfiction Text Structure
(single cause – multiple effects)*

Julie loves wandering through the forest behind her aunt's house each summer when she visits her Pennsylvania home. This year she came across an unusual plant. It had small white flowers with leaves similar to a violet and it smelled like garlic! Intrigued, Julie picked the flowers so she could show her aunt this interesting discovery. To her surprise Julie learned that this interesting plant is not that wonderful, but the text she found was a fantastic example of Cause-Effect Nonfiction Text Structure!

Now it's **Your Turn!** Read **Garlic Mustard** and create a *Think Aloud* and Graphic Organizer with your family or friends.

Then compare your thinking with **Julie's Think Aloud and Graphic Organizer.**



Before You Read:

Think about what you may already know about garlic mustard.
Think about what you've learned about cause-effect relationships.
Share your thoughts with your family and friends.

While You Read:

Ask your parent, brother, sister, or friend to read this passage with you. Look for signal words and see if together you can determine the cause and its effects. You may want to highlight signal words in blue. Highlight the causes in orange and the effect in green. (You may use any colors available to you – just remember your color scheme!)

After You Read:

- Think about this question, "Why is garlic mustard harmful?"
- Discuss your ideas with your family or friends. Together, create a collaborative Think Aloud about how you used Cause-Effect Nonfiction Text Structure to determine why garlic mustard is harmful. Share your *thinking* with each other.

Garlic Mustard

A white tail deer moves gracefully through the dense forest. Seeds picked up from a weedy patch of garlic mustard along the road cling to his legs. While he grazes deep in the forest, the seeds drop off into fertile soil and take root. Due to the introduction of garlic mustard, the woodlands' delicate ecosystem begins to shift.



Native to Europe, garlic mustard is an invasive species that expands rapidly over natural woodland areas. Seeds can be spread by animals, unknowing hikers, and even road maintenance equipment. This aggressive weed can choke out native plant life and endanger tree regeneration. The presence of garlic mustard also results in changes in soil composition. Because of its hardiness and seeds that germinate easily, garlic mustard may quickly dominate the forest floor. The outcome is dramatic. Robbing sunlight, moisture, nutrients and soil, this greedy invader poses a serious threat to native plants and animals in forest communities. In the U.S., garlic mustard is now found in 30 states.





Create a Graphic Organizer:

After you have determined the single cause and the multiple effects for why garlic mustard is harmful, create a graphic organizer below to represent your thinking and to help you remember the author's main points.





Compare your Think Aloud with Julie's Think Aloud:

Julie's Think Aloud: "Garlic mustard! I've never heard of such a thing. It sounds like something I could buy at the grocery store. As I read the first few sentences I realize that it's a plant. That's an interesting name! When I read the signal words, "due to," I'm thinking these words signal a *cause-effect relationship* will be mentioned. This helps me understand that garlic mustard causes the shift in the woodlands' ecosystem. I wonder how this happens? I will read on looking for the *effects* of garlic mustard in the woodlands.

I notice it says this aggressive weed can "choke out native plant life" and "endanger tree regeneration." I'm thinking that the aggressive weed is referring to garlic mustard and that this is explaining *effects* of garlic mustard. That doesn't sound good. This plant is killing the natural plant life that exists. It must be powerful if it can take over like that. I read further and see the words, "results in," which signals another *effect*. Garlic mustard "changes the soil composition." When I read the word "because," another signal word, I know that signals an additional *effect*. Garlic mustard can "quickly dominate the forest floor." I cannot believe that this plant is capable of all of those things and is found in 30 states!"

Garlic Mustard

A white tail deer moves gracefully through the dense forest. Seeds picked up from a weedy patch of garlic mustard along the road cling to his legs. While he grazes deep in the forest, the seeds drop off into fertile soil and take root. **Due to** the introduction of **garlic mustard**, the woodlands' delicate ecosystem begins to shift.



Native to Europe, garlic mustard is an invasive species that expands rapidly over natural woodland areas. Seeds can be spread by animals, unknowing hikers, and even road maintenance equipment. This aggressive weed can **choke out native plant life** and **endanger tree regeneration**. The presence of garlic mustard also **results in changes in soil composition**. **Because** of its hardiness and seeds that germinate easily, garlic mustard may **quickly dominate the forest floor**. The outcome is dramatic. Robbing sunlight, moisture, nutrients and soil, this greedy invader poses a serious threat to native plants and animals in forest communities. In the U.S., garlic mustard is now found in 30 states.



Compare your Graphic Organizer with Julie's Graphic Organizer:

Julie's Graphic Organizer: "Because there is a single cause that results in multiple effects, I use a single cause-multiple effects organizer."

Questions to Think and Talk About:

- How do *signal words* help Julie make sense of the text?
- How does the *Single Cause-Multiple Effects Graphic Organizer* help Julie determine important ideas?
- Why might this process help you make sense of text?
- When might this process be useful?

