

TumbleTA REGIONAL STANDARDS EDITION Because of an Acorn - Build the Cause Chain	
New Jersey Grade 2	
TEACHES	RI.IT.2.3

CURRENT FRAMEWORK

2023 New Jersey Student Learning Standards for English Language Arts

STANDARD

Describe the connection between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in a sequence within a text.

WHY THIS FROZEN LESSON EARNS TEACHES

Students build eight book-specific cause-to-effect links in sequence and explain one causal link.

INTEGRITY RULE

The regional standard is additive. The two lesson pages that follow are the frozen V5 lesson and have not been rewritten to obtain this standards match.

Standards-first production package | final 60-region audit | September 9, 2026

TumbleTA · Standards-First Short Lesson · Grade 2

Because of an Acorn Build the Cause Chain

20 MINUTES

TARGET

Explain how one event or idea causes the next in a text.

STUDENT PRODUCT

Eight connected cause -> effect links plus one written explanation.

LESSON SEQUENCE

1. Open with the book's chain Put these first four cards on the table in book order: ACORN -> TREE -> BIRD -> SEED. Ask students to say what the repeated 'because of' move is doing between each one.
2. Students complete all eight printed arrows: ACORN -> TREE -> BIRD -> SEED -> FLOWER -> FRUIT -> CHIPMUNK -> SNAKE -> HAWK. The order must come from the book.
3. Explain one fixed link Everyone explains the same link first: Because of the acorn, the tree grows. Then students choose one later arrow and write their own because/so sentence.
4. Check against the ending Return to the later acorn reference. Ask whether the book has made a line or a cycle, and have students correct any arrow that skips a stated link.

ASSESSMENT · LOOK FOR

- Keeps the reviewed chain in book order.
- Explains a genuine cause/effect connection, not sequence alone.
- Uses the book's repeated structure to justify one link.

Standards-first rule: freeze the lesson after QA. Add a regional code only when the complete local expectation is actually satisfied.

TumbleTA · Student Evidence · Grade 2

Because of an Acorn

Build the Cause Chain

Name _____ Date _____

BOOK CHAIN

ACORN

->

TREE

TREE	->	BIRD
BIRD	->	SEED
SEED	->	FLOWER
FLOWER	->	FRUIT
FRUIT	->	CHIPMUNK
CHIPMUNK	->	SNAKE

SNAKE

->

HAWK

Explain one later link: Because _____, _____ happened.

This student page is part of the frozen standards-first lesson. Complete the evidence shown here; do not substitute a different task to fit a standard.