Cause and Effect

Grade 2 Reading Worksheet - Challenge Me

Name _____ Date _____

Read the text. Circle the best answer.

READ THIS FIRST

From Tree to Paper

Most paper is made from trees. Wood is full of tiny threads called fibers. When these fibers are pulled apart and pressed back together, they make paper.

First, logs arrive at a paper mill. A machine peels off the bark, because bark would leave dark specks in the paper. Then the logs are chopped into small chips.

Next, the chips are cooked in a giant pot with water and chemicals. The heat and chemicals break the wood apart into loose fibers. The result is a wet, mushy mix called pulp.

The pulp is mostly brown. For white paper, the pulp is washed and bleached. Paper that skips this step stays brown, like a paper grocery bag.

Then the pulp is sprayed onto a wide, moving screen. Water drains through the tiny holes, but the fibers stay on top. They tangle together and form a thin mat.

Heavy rollers squeeze out more water. Then hot rollers dry the paper and make it smooth.

Old paper can be turned back into pulp, so fewer trees are needed.

1. Why does a machine peel the bark off the logs?
   - Bark would leave dark specks in the paper.
   - Bark is needed to make white paper sheets.
   - Bark makes the logs too heavy to chop up.

2. What happens right after the bark is peeled off?
   - The logs are chopped into small chips.
   - The chips are cooked in a giant pot.
   - The pulp is sprayed onto a moving screen.

3. What causes the wood chips to break apart into fibers?
   - the machine that peels off the bark
   - the heat and chemicals in the giant pot
   - the water draining through the tiny screen holes

4. What would happen if the pulp skipped washing and bleaching?
   - The paper would stay brown.
   - The pulp would be too dry to spray.
   - The paper would turn white anyway.

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Answer Key - Grade 2 Reading Worksheet - Challenge Me

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