

## 5.15 Cause and effect

**Topic:** Weather  
**Subtopic:** Climate  
**Activity type/skill:** Sentence structure  
**Literacy focus:** Reading  
**Genre:** Explanations

### Objective

- Recognise the use of 'when' to link cause and effect.

### What you need

- Student worksheet (see next page)

### What to do

1. Explain to the students that, in science, they may be asked the question 'What happens when...?'
2. Look at the example at the top of the student worksheet and then have them complete the table of causes and effects, then check the answers by asking a question for each. For example, 'What happens when air is heated?', 'What happens when air is cooled?'

Answers:

Cause	Effect
When air is heated	it becomes lighter.
When air is cooled	it becomes heavier.
When air becomes lighter	it rises.
When air becomes heavier	it sinks.
When cool air sinks	it creates an area of high pressure.
When warm air rises	it creates an area of low pressure.
When land is heated	it heats the air above.
When land is cooled	it cools the air above.

## Activity fifteen



### What happens when



When air is heated,

it becomes lighter.

cause	effect
When air is heated . . .	
	. . . it becomes heavier.
	. . . it rises.
When air becomes heavier . . .	
	. . . it creates an area of high pressure.
When warm air rises . . .	
When land is heated . . .	
	. . . it cools the air above.

. . . it creates an area of low pressure.

. . . it becomes lighter.

When cool air sinks . . .

When land is cooled . . .

When air becomes lighter . . .

. . . it sinks.

. . . it heats the air above.

When air is cooled . . .