



ANSWER KEY & TEACHER LOOK-FORS

Vocabulary, Sequence & Sorts

Vocabulary Meaning Match

1-D, 2-C, 3-F, 4-E, 5-G, 6-H, 7-B, 8-A.

Vocabulary Sort

Reasonable sample: Things / Descriptions—mitten, snug, crowded; Actions / Changes—squeeze, stretch, burst; Thinking / Story Words—sequence, predict. Accept alternate placements when the student gives a logical meaning-based defense.

Animal Sequence

Order	Animal	Order	Animal
1	Mole	5	Badger
2	Snowshoe rabbit	6	Fox
3	Hedgehog	7	Bear
4	Owl	8	Mouse

Cause-and-Effect Sort

Match the five pairs in the order printed: lost mitten → animals find shelter; more/larger animals → stretching and crowding; mouse near bear's nose → sneeze; sneeze → animals scatter; mitten in air → Nicki retrieves it.

True, False, or Needs Revision?

- 1 F — Animals generally enter from smaller to larger; the tiny mouse enters last.
- 2 T — The increasingly stretched mitten signals the growing problem.
- 3 NR — The mouse triggers the sneeze, but crowding, the bear, and all prior entries build the conditions.
- 4 T — Border pictures reveal Nicki's parallel actions.
- 5 F — Sequence is necessary for the cumulative cause-and-effect chain.
- 6 T — Repetition supports prediction.



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Comprehension Check & Open Responses

Selected Responses

- 1. Nicki
- 2. Mole
- 3. Bear sneezes—3; Nicki loses mitten—1; animals squeeze inside—2; Nicki finds mitten—4.
- 4. More and more animals enter the same small space.
- 5. The mouse settles near the bear’s nose, causing the bear to sneeze; the sneeze sends the animals out.

Open-Response Look-Fors

Item	Strong Response Includes
6 • Prediction clue	The mitten is visibly stretching; animals are increasingly large; the repeated entry pattern continues; space is limited.
7 • Cumulative pattern	Another animal arrives, asks or insists on entering, and squeezes in; the group and problem grow.
8 • Bear removed	A logical change tied to evidence—for example, less crowding, no mouse-near-bear sneeze, or a different event needed to scatter the animals.
Cause & effect pages	An accurate event pair plus an explanation of how the cause produces the effect—not simply two events placed side by side.
Illustration clues	A specific observation from the main or border art and a reasonable inference connected to it.
Writing	Clear response, grade-appropriate organization, story vocabulary, and at least one explained connection or consequence.

Acceptable variation: Students may describe the ending in different words. Score the underlying relationship: the mouse triggers the sneeze; the sneeze sends the animals out; Nicki notices and recovers the mitten.