

Name _____



Cause & Waves

Directions: Read the passage carefully. Think about how one action (the cause) leads to another event (the effect). Fill in the chart with the correct cause and effect pairs from the passage. Be sure your answers explain **why** something happened and **what happened because of it**.

Litter in the Ocean

The ocean is home to many animals, but littering creates big problems. When people drop plastic bottles or bags on the beach, the wind or waves can carry them into the water. Sea turtles often mistake floating plastic bags for jellyfish and try to eat them, which makes the turtles very sick. Fish can get caught in soda can rings, making it hard for them to swim. Seabirds may pick up shiny pieces of trash, thinking it is food, and bring it back to their nests. Over time, so much litter builds up that entire ocean habitats become unsafe for animals.

Cause (What happens first)	Effect (What happens because of it)
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	

Reflection Question: Why is it important for people to be careful about littering near oceans and beaches?