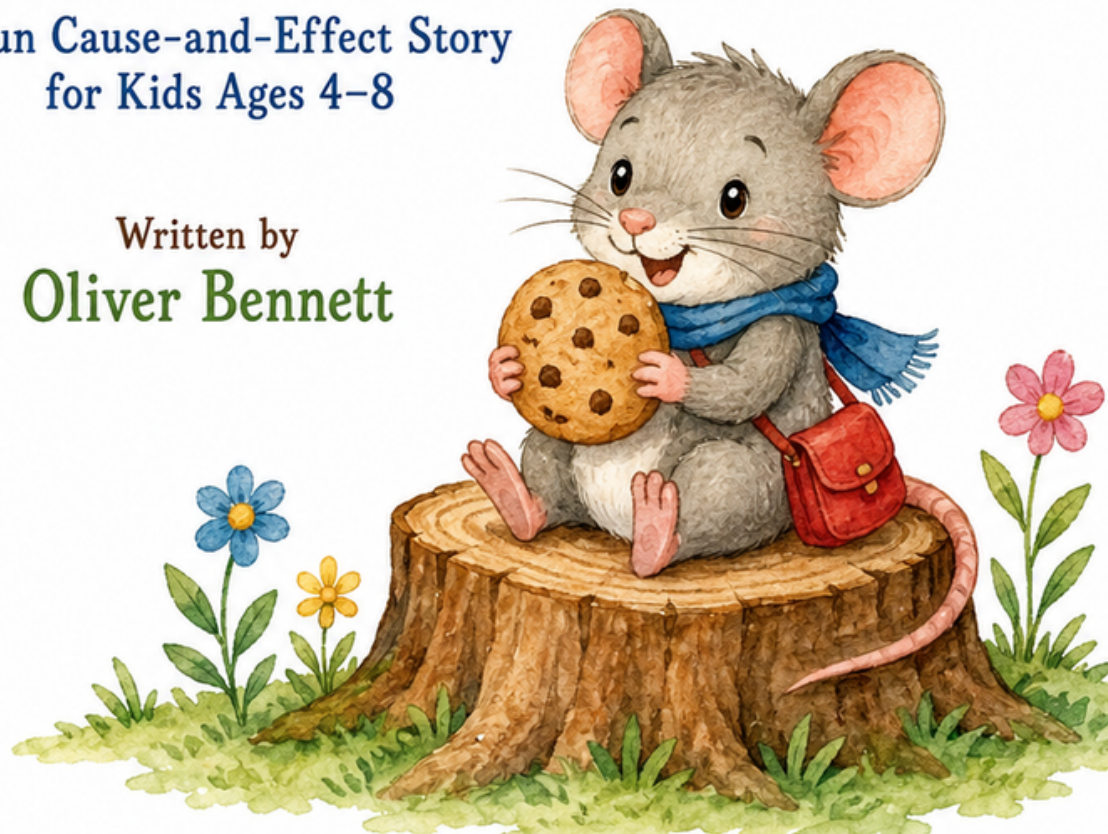


The Mouse and the Cookie

A Fun Cause-and-Effect Story
for Kids Ages 4–8

Written by
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On a bright spring morning a small gray mouse hopped along a quiet forest path.

His little blue scarf flapped in the wind, and he smiled at the birds singing above him.

Then a sweet smell wafted through the air.

The mouse stopped, twitched his nose, and whispered, "That smells like fresh cookies!"



The delicious smell led him to a little wooden table beside a warm cottage. One warm chocolate chip cookie sat on the table.

The mouse looked round carefully. There was no one there. He smiled. And picked up the cookie gently.



The cookie was hot and crisp. "One
bite is all I need," said the little
mouse.

He took a tiny bite.

Clunk!

Sweet crumbs fell on his scarf.
"Oh!" he laughed. "Now I gotta clean
up."



The mouse noticed a small stream close
by.

He shook the crumbs off his scarf and
washed his little paws.

The cool water sparkled in the sun.
He peered into the water and smiled.
"My scarf is pretty today.



The mouse gazed at his reflection
and had a thought. "If my scarf is
clean," he said, "then my little satchel
should be clean, too.

He opened the satchel and shook out
a few little leaves;

It was clean and tidy now.



The mouse looked inside the satchel and pulled out a tiny notebook and a little pencil. "I know!" he cheered. "I'll make a list of fun things to do today.

His first word was ...

Cookies!



The mouse put the notebook into his
satchel.

He rose, and a light breeze riffled the
pages.

A blank page turned into a little paper
airplane.

The mouse laughed. "It wants to soar!



The little airplane landed next to a
field of bright flowers.

A busy butterfly flitted from flower
to flower.

"How beautiful your wings are!" said
the mouse.

He followed the butterfly in silence.



The butterfly came to rest on a small
apple tree.

There was a bright red apple dangling
from a branch that was just within
reach.

"Maybe I'll eat it later," he thought.



The apple was too large to carry on
its own.

The mouse smiled.

"Let my satchel assist me!"

And he gently put the apple in his bag
and joyfully carried on with his
journey.



As he went ahead, the mouse heard a
little chirping noise.

There was a blue bird perched on the
fence.

It looked tired and hungry.

The mouse smiled warmly.

"I think I can share something!"



The mouse unzipped his bag.
He produced the sparkling red apple.
Both relished their delicious treat in
the sun.
Sharing enhanced the taste of the
apple.



The small bird spread its wings happily.

"Thank you!" it tweeted.

And then it laid a tiny golden feather
next to the mouse.

"This is a gift for my special friend!"

The mouse kept the feather safely in
his notebook.



When the sun started to set, the
mouse walked on home.
He reminisced on how amazing his day
had been.
It all started with one cookie...
Clean paws...
A neat pack...
And a whole new adventure.



Back at his cozy little home, the mouse
placed the golden feather inside his
notebook.

Then he smiled at the last tiny crumb
of cookie in his pocket.

"I wonder," he whispered with a grin,
"What adventure will one little crumb
begin tomorrow?"

The End.



The Mouse and the Cookie



One cookie. One tiny mouse.
And a whole day of fun surprises!

When a curious little mouse finds a delicious
cookie, one small bite leads to a chain of
unexpected adventures. From cleaning up to
making a new friend, every choice brings
something wonderful.



A heartwarming cause-and-effect story
that shows kids how one small thing
can lead to something great!

