

In this book, a child and their dog experience some small yet common problems. They search for different ways to solve each together. This book encourages children to think of solutions to their problems.

CORE SKILL OBJECTIVES

INTENTIONAL TEACHING PRACTICES

THINK



Children will:

- ◆ Think of several different ways to solve everyday problems

Teachers will:

- ◆ Ask open-ended questions
- ◆ Prompt children to think of different solutions

TEACHING TIP

The problems that come up during our regular activities and routines don't have just one solution, and that's a big idea for young children! Toddlers are just beginning to focus on finding a solution that works when they experience a problem during a task. It takes repeated practice and time for children to figure things out on their own. The next level of support is to extend children's thinking to finding *another* solution. Supporting flexible thinking, and allowing children the independence to try things out, supports children in becoming great problem-solvers later in life.

1. INTRODUCE

- ◆ "When we have a problem, sometimes there are many ways to solve it. The character in this book, called *Solutions for Cold Feet*, has a lot of little problems during their day. Let's see if we can think of even more ways they could solve their problems."

2. READ THE BOOK

- ◆ Pause occasionally to ask open-ended questions related to the problems the character is facing.
- ◆ Prompt children to think of solutions that are different than what the character does.

Ask Open-Ended Questions

Read: "Solutions for getting caught in the rain"

Ask: "What can you do if it starts raining?"

Prompt: "(Child) and (child) each had different ideas about what to do. There are many ways to solve this problem."

Read: "Solutions for a melting ice cream cone"

Ask: "What would you do if your ice cream was melting quickly?"

Prompt: "I heard a lot of different ideas about solving this problem. Let's see what other ideas they have in the book."

Read: "Use your mittens"

Prompt: "I wonder how the character could get their hat down from that tree. Do you have any ideas?"

3. REVIEW

- ◆ "Even when we have a problem, there are a lot of choices for us for how to solve it. When one solution doesn't work, we can keep thinking until we find a new way to make things work."

4. KEEP IT GOING

- ◆ Comment on what you notice children trying during tasks and routines. Instead of immediately jumping in to help, try staying nearby to support their efforts. Use open-ended questions to extend their thinking on how to solve the problem at hand. By allowing time for thinking and talking things through together, children are more likely to be successful all on their own.