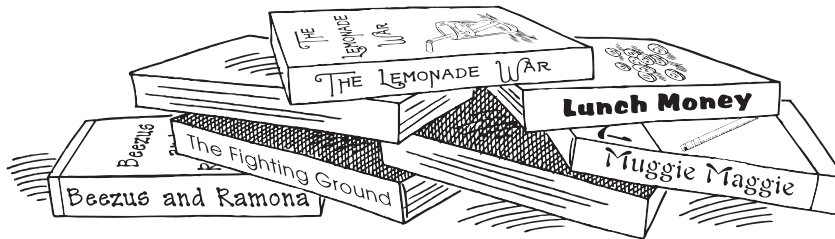


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Finding the Problem and the Solution

This section focuses on a fundamental skill—finding the problem and the solution. The graphic organizers and comic strip craft can be reproduced and used many times with different texts. Students will be able to identify many problems and solutions using these various activities.



Suggested Books for Teaching Problem and Solution

Avi. *The Fighting Ground*. New York: HarperCollins, 1984.

At 13 years old, Jonathan is leaving to fight in the Revolutionary War. Little does he know, the real battle is within himself.

Cleary, Beverly. *Beezus and Ramona*. New York: HarperCollins, 1955.

Ramona is causing trouble, and her older sister, Beezus, is doing her best to stop her.

———. *Muggie Maggie*. New York: HarperCollins, 1990.

Maggie has decided to resist learning cursive. When asked how long it will take her to learn it, she says, "Maybe forever." Now she has to face the consequences of her defiant behavior.

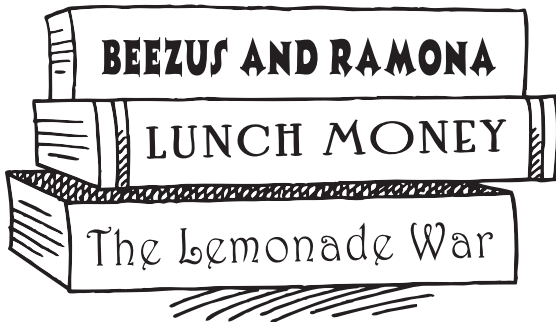
Clements, Andrew. *Lunch Money*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2005.

Greg, a sixth-grader, is hoping to make some extra money by selling comic books—that is, if his nemesis, Maura, doesn't get in his way.

Davies, Jacqueline. *The Lemonade War*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2007.

Evan discovers that he and his younger sister, Jessie, will be in the same class for fourth grade. This leads to a lemonade-stand battle to see who can earn \$100.00 first.

Activities for Finding the Problem and the Solution

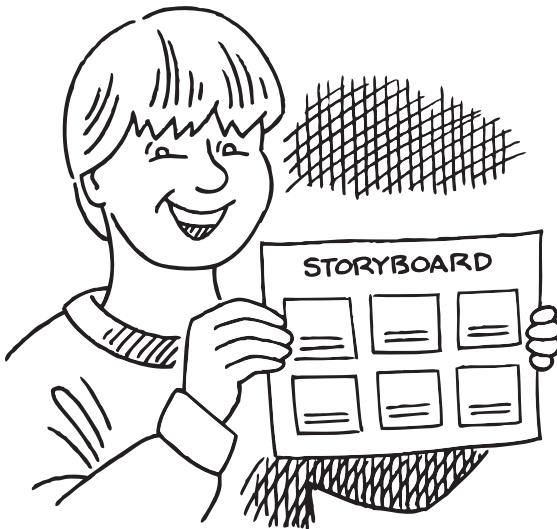


What's the Problem?

Copy What's the Problem? (page 80), one per student. Have students read a book and then answer the questions about the main problem in the story. This activity can be used many times throughout the year with a variety of texts.

Problem and Solution Comic Strip

Copy Problem and Solution Comic Strip (pages 81–82) for each student. Make additional copies as needed. Have students begin reading a book, describing the problems and solutions as they develop in the story. Next, have students draw a picture for each problem and solution. Then have students cut out the comic strip pieces and glue them together in order. These comic strips can be displayed on a bulletin board titled "Problem and Solution Comic Strips."



Problem and Solution Storyboard

Copy Problem and Solution Storyboard (page 83), one per student. Using page 83 and a piece of 12" x 18" construction paper, students will create their own problem and solution storyboards. Students will begin by reading a book. Then they will write three problems and three solutions on the storyboard cards. Next, students will draw pictures for each problem and solution. After each storyboard card has been completed, students will cut out the cards and glue the problems and solutions in order onto the piece of construction paper. These storyboards can be decorated and displayed on a bulletin board titled "A Problem in Every Story."

Problem and Solution Comic Strip

Directions: Begin reading a book. Describe the problems and solutions as they develop in the story. Draw a picture for each problem and solution. Then cut out the comic strip pieces and attach them together in order.



My Comic Strip of

Book by

Comic Strip by

Problem:

Problem:

Solution:

Problem and Solution Comic Strip (cont.)

Directions: Continue describing the problems and solutions as they develop in the story. Draw a picture for each problem and solution. Then cut out the comic strip pieces and attach them together in order.



<p>Solution: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Problem: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>Solution: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>

The End