



SOLUTIONS for COLD FEET

and other little problems

BY CAREY SOOKOCHEFF

EDUCATORS' GUIDE

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SOLUTIONS for a BORING DAY



Eat ice cream



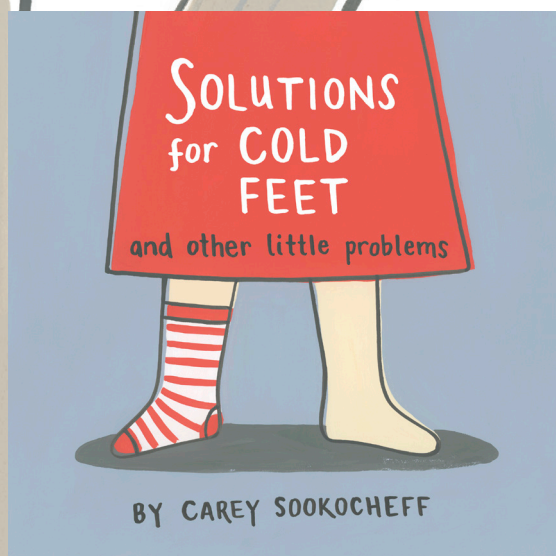
Make a tent



Read a good book!



Build a snowman



ABOUT THE BOOK

What do you do when you're missing a shoe? When you're caught in the rain? Or when your ice cream melts? *Solutions for Cold Feet and Other Little Problems* is a sweet and gently humorous look at practical and creative answers for all the little daily problems in one young girl's life, including her exuberant and pesky dog. Will her dog, who starts out as a problem, end up as a solution?

This clever picture book and its playful narrative shows the trial-and-error process of problem-solving and can be used in a number of ways including:

- Exploring concepts and themes such as problem and solution, creativity, risk-taking, responsibility and pets
- Studying creative problem-solving techniques
- As a fun and lively read-aloud experience

Activities and discussion prompts have been linked to Common Core State Standards where applicable.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Carey Sookocheff's illustrations have garnered awards from Communication Arts and American Illustration as well as the Society of Illustrators. She is the illustrator of the critically acclaimed Buddy and Earl series. She worked with a wide range of editorial, design and corporate clients, including *Real Simple* magazine, the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, United Airlines, YMCA Canada, *Canadian Living* and Fairmont Hotels and Resorts. She lives in Toronto with her husband, two kids and their dog Rosie. Visit her website at www.careysookocheff.com for more information.



Photo credit: Emily Doukogiannis



PRE-READING DISCUSSION / ACTIVITIES

- What is your definition of a problem? Can you think of an example of a big problem and a little problem? What makes them big and little?
- Before reading, look over the following problems and brainstorm different ideas of what to do if faced with such problems:
 - You lose a shoe.
 - You get caught in the rain.
 - Your feet are cold.
- Do you think it is true that for every problem there is a solution? Why or why not? Can you think of a problem that has no solution?

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.K.1

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.1.1

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.2.1



1. Problem and Solution

- Make a list of all the problems the girl faces in the story. Why is each of them a problem? Are any of the problems something that you might not consider to be a problem? Select one problem to act out for the class. Ask the class to guess which problem you are showing.
- When deciding how to best solve a problem, it is often helpful to try and identify the cause of the problem in the first place. This might help you come up with ideas for possible solutions but might also prevent the problem from occurring again. What were the causes of each of the problems in the story? If you are unsure, think about what the most likely cause of the problem was.
- Overcoming and solving a problem is an excellent learning opportunity. What lesson can the girl learn from each of the problems she faced in the story?
- Describe the dog. What role, if any, does the dog play in each of the girl's problems? How do you think the girl feels about her dog throughout the story? Do her feelings change by the end of the story? Why or why not? How do the illustrations add to your understanding of the story and its characters? Find an example of a picture that shows the girl's feelings.
- What is the biggest problem you have ever had to solve? Draw and/or write about this problem and how you solved it.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.K.1

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.K.7

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.1.1

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.1.7

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.7

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.K.2

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.1.2

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.2.2





2. Solutions for ...

- Create your own version of the story or make a class book. Start by identifying six simple problems encountered in the everyday life of a kid. Then problem solve at least three potential solutions to each of these problems. Select one as the best solution. Write and illustrate using the same format as the story.
- As a class, brainstorm five different solutions to the following problem: A brand new student is added to your class. Throughout their first morning, they act rudely towards several of your classmates. Conduct a class survey about which option is the best solution. Graph the results.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.K.3

3. Match the Solution to the Problem

Draw a line matching the solution to the problem it solves from the story.

SOLUTION

Get another ice cream cone
Find a friend to play with
A dog
Wear a mismatched pair
Splash in the puddles
Make a snowman

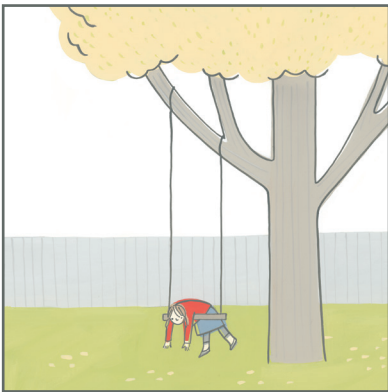
PROBLEM

Cold Feet
Getting caught in the rain
Flyaway hat
Melting ice cream cone
A boring day
A missing shoe

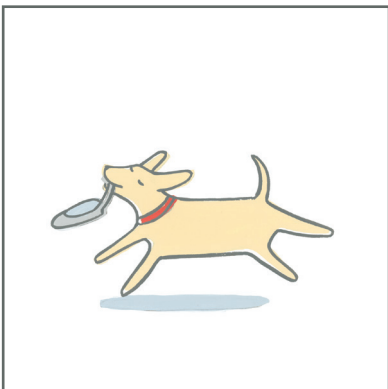
4. What's the Problem?

In your own words, write a sentence that describes the problem shown in each picture.









5. Mixed-up Problem Solving

- There are six basic steps that can be applied to solving most problems. The steps are listed below, but they are not in the correct order. Rearrange the steps below so that they make sense.

_____ Create a list of possible solutions to the problem.

_____ Identify/name the problem.

_____ Apply the solution.

_____ Identify what caused the problem.

_____ Select the best solution.

_____ Reflect on how well the problem was solved.

6. Ready, Set, Action!

- Most problems require some kind of action to be properly solved. The girl in the story takes action to solve her problems. Locate some of the action words that describe the girl's solutions to the small problems she faces. For example: check, look, search, etc.
- Read the following simple problems and solutions. Underline the action word in each solution. Then create three problems and solutions of your own, and identify the action words in each solution.

Problem: I was hungry.

Solution: I ate a sandwich.

Problem: _____

Solution: _____

Problem: I spilled my milk.

Solution: I cleaned up the mess with a mop.

Problem: _____

Solution: _____

Problem: I was going to be late for school.

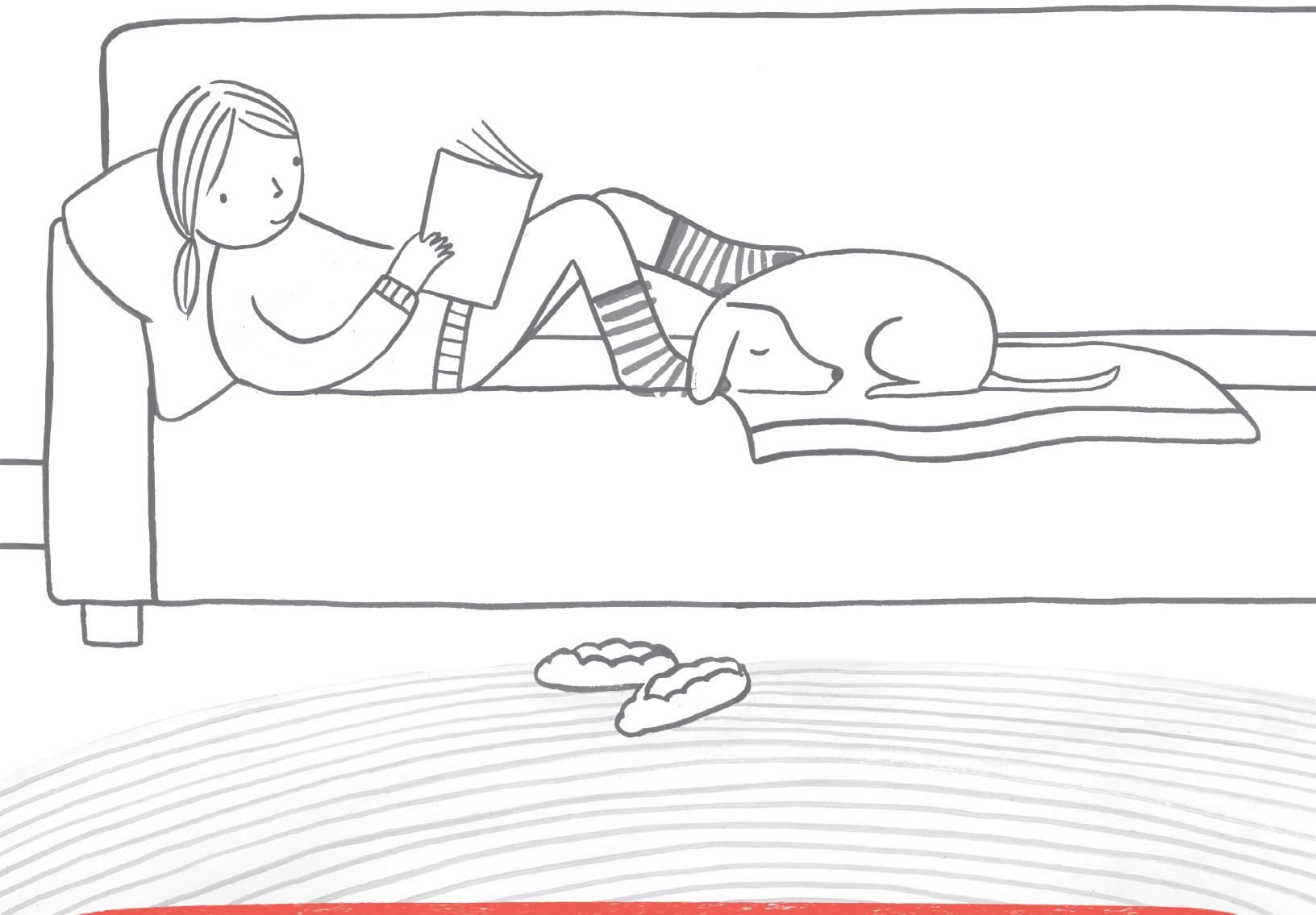
Solution: My mom drove me to school.

Problem: _____

Solution: _____



Help them find
a colorful solution:





Common Core State Standards

Reading: Literature

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.K.1 With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about key details in a text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.K.7 With prompting and support, describe the relationship between illustrations and the story in which they appear (e.g., what moment in a story an illustration depicts).

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.1.1 Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.1.7 Use illustrations and details in a story to describe its characters, setting or events.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.7 Use information gained from the illustrations and words in a print or digital text to demonstrate understanding of its characters, setting or plot.

Writing

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.K.2 Use a combination of drawing, dictating and writing to compose informative/explanatory texts in which they name what they are writing about and supply some information about the topic.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.K.3 Use a combination of drawing, dictating and writing to narrate a single event or several loosely linked events, tell about the events in the order in which they occurred and provide a reaction to what happened.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.1.2 Write informative/explanatory texts in which they name a topic, supply some facts about the topic and provide some sense of closure.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.2.2 Write informative/explanatory texts in which they introduce a topic, use facts and definitions to develop points, and provide a concluding statement or section.

Speaking and Listening

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.K.1 Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about kindergarten topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.1.1 Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about grade 1 topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.2.1 Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about grade 2 topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups