SEL · PROBLEM SOLVING AND DECISIONS · GRADES 2–5

Five Steps to Solve a Problem

Number the five problem-solving steps in order, then use them on a forgotten-homework problem.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____



Write 1 to 5 to put the problem-solving steps in order.

- ☐ Pick the best solution.
- ☐ Name the problem.
- ☐ Try it, then check: did it work?
- ☐ Think about what could happen with each one.
- ☐ Think of different solutions.

The problem: It is 8:00 at night and Eli just remembered his math homework is at school. It is due tomorrow.

1. The problem is: _____

2. Solutions: _____

3. What could happen: _____

4. The best solution: _____

5. How he can check it worked: _____

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ANSWER KEY · PROBLEM SOLVING AND DECISIONS · GRADES 2–5

Answer Key: Five Steps to Solve a Problem

Answers for grown-ups. Many questions have more than one good answer, so the key shows one example.



Write 1 to 5 to put the problem-solving steps in order.

4 Pick the best solution.

1 Name the problem.

5 Try it, then check: did it work?

3 Think about what could happen with each one.

2 Think of different solutions.

The problem: It is 8:00 at night and Eli just remembered his math homework is at school. It is due tomorrow.

1. The problem is: Eli's homework is at school and it is due tomorrow.

2. Solutions: call a classmate for the page, tell the teacher in the morning, go to school early

3. What could happen: a classmate might help; the teacher might let him finish at school

4. The best solution: tell the teacher first thing and offer to do it at lunch

5. How he can check it worked: the homework gets done and handed in

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