

Monster Problems to Solve – Problem Solving for Young Students

Grades K-1 (2 x quarter day workshops, 1-2 classes)

Inquiry Questions: Why are some people mean? What can we do?

Unit Description: Using a fairytale as a provocation, students experience the inquiry method by **problem solving** inside an imaginary world. Active literacy strategies are used to guide students to **work collaboratively while embracing another’s point of view**. Students **discover win/win solutions** to their problem inside the story. Reflecting on real life, they discover that finding peaceful solutions through conversation is very powerful and achievable. Students generate questions, retell and write in role while **building empathy** for someone that frustrates them. Handout for teachers provided.

Kindness is the Key

Grades 2-3 (half day workshops, 1-2 classes)

Inquiry Question: How can we settle with a friend? What can we do to make a difference?

Unit Description: Develop **emotional and social awareness** by living inside a story. What can we do when someone causes an upset? What values do we have in our community? Inside a charming story, an analogy for everyday life, students work to discover a way forward that allows their community to flourish. In role, through critical thinking, teamwork and based on community values, students work to create happiness and harmony in their community. Practical strategies such as the **“Make it Right Formula”** and **“Through Your Lens”** allow students to transfer their learning to their relationships and appreciate each other. Handout for teachers provided.

Winners Work Together: Individuality Gives Way to a Collective Mission

Grades 4-6 (half day workshops, 1-2 classes)

Inquiry Question: How can people of differing opinions work together to accomplish something outside of themselves that serves a greater need or purpose?

Unit Description: Create a **bonding experience** that brings your class together. Based on two picture books, this workshop provides captivating, fun and **practical strategies** to support students in **reflecting on real life situations**. Experiential learning through role play allows students to live life from a different point of view and discover the **Way-to-Be**. The conversations out of role provoke compelling dialogue as students **relate their learning to their own experience** and to the world at large. Authentic connections with **other curriculum areas** underline the learning. Handout for teachers provided.

Poverty Among Us-Who is My Neighbour?

Grades 7-8 (half day workshops, 1-2 classes)

Inquiry Question: What is my role when others are in need?

Unit Description: Why are children hungry among us? Could they be in our neighborhood or part of our school? Using a variety of **literacy sources**, students explore **various perspectives** on the issues of **child poverty and homelessness** through the power of experiential learning. This cross-curricular unit **builds awareness and empathy** in the struggle for **equity** and inspires a move towards **social activism**. Through robust strategies and team work, students explore the topic layering their knowledge and experience as they **create a soundscape reflecting different points of view**. Handout for teachers provided.