

LESSON PLAN
GRADE PreK-K
Bill's Birthday Cake

LESSON TITLE: Learning about Problem Solving

OBJECTIVES: Students will learn how to generate ideas for solving problems.

MATERIALS: Book *Bill's Birthday Cake*, a ripped stuffed animal (or broken toy), paper, pencil, crayons, paper

LESSON PLAN:

1. **ENGAGE:** Show the students your ripped stuffed animal. Tell the students that you accidentally tore your favorite stuffed animal and you are not sure what to do about it. Tell the students you were hoping they could help you think of some ways to solve the problem after they view book that has a similar problem.
2. Tell the students they are view a book called *Bill's Birthday Cake* and you want them to pay attention to the accident and what the characters did to solve the problem.
3. **TEACH:** Ask students what problem or accident happened in the story and how the characters solved the problem. Create a t-chart and write the problem on left side and solution on the right side.
4. Lead a discussion about problems and solutions. Display your ripped stuffed animal and ask the students if they have thought of any solutions. Title a t-chart, Problems and Solutions. Write "ripped stuffed animal" on the left side of the t-chart and write their solution ideas on the right side. Tell them to give their brain a kiss because they had very smart ideas and solution for the problem.
5. **GUIDED PRACTICE:** Ask the students if they ever had something special that broke or if they caused an accident. Call on students to share their experience one at a time and encourage the students to brainstorm solutions. Continue to write each problem on the left side of the t-chart and add the students' solutions on the right side of the t-chart.
6. **INDEPENDENT PRACTICE:** Tell students they are excellent problem solvers!
7. Students will fold a piece of paper in half. On the left side of their paper, students will draw a picture of a real life problem they had. Then, students will draw a picture of the best solution they brainstormed. Allow students to chat about the problems and solutions with each other as they work.
8. **CLOSURE:** Call on volunteers to share and explain their pictures to the whole class. Tell students you are very proud of them and that they are so clever and capable of handling any problems they might encounter.

8. **ASSESSMENT:** Walk to each table and observe the students discussing problems, brainstorming for solutions and illustrating their experience.

Quiz Key
Bill's Birthday Cake

1. Who was having a birthday in the story?
 - a. Dad
 - b. Jack
 - c. Bill**
 - d. Jill

2. Who made the birthday cake?
 - a. Bill
 - b. Jill
 - c. Mom and Dad
 - d. Bob and Dad**

3. How many candles did Bob put on Bill's birthday cake?
 - a. two candles
 - b. three candles
 - c. four candles**
 - d. five candles

4. If there were four candles on Bill's cake, how old would he be?
 - a. two years old
 - b. three years old
 - c. four years old**
 - d. five years old

5. What happened to the cake?
 - a. the cake burned in oven
 - b. they forgot to put icing on the cake
 - c. they put salt instead of sugar in the cake
 - d. the cake accidentally dropped on the floor**

6. Who dropped the cake?
 - a. Mom
 - b. Dad
 - c. Bob**
 - d. Bill

7. How did Bob feel after he dropped the cake?
 - a. happy
 - b. cheerful
 - c. sad**
 - d. wonderful

8. How did they fix the damaged cake?

- a. They served ice cream instead of cake.
- b. They threw the damaged cake in the trash can.
- c. They bought a new cake.
- d. They decorated the cake with a loader to make it look like a work cake.**

9. What was Bill's first reaction when he saw his birthday cake?

- a. He cried because some of his cake was missing.**
- b. He laughed because he liked damaged cakes.
- c. He screamed because he forgot it was his birthday.
- d. He cried because he does not like to eat cake.

10. Who ate the missing part of Bill's cake?

- a. Bob and Bill
- b. Bob and Dad
- c. the dog and the cat**
- d. the mouse and the bird