



SAMPLE MATERIAL

Problem Solution Chart

Everett Area Elementary School, Pennsylvania

Topic: Reducing Behavior Problems

Practice: Teach Skills

This chart is used to facilitate social problem solving by students at Everett Area Elementary School. It is most recommended for students in third- through sixth-grade. Teachers use these charts to guide students toward problem solving in a solution-oriented rather than a reactive manner. Throughout the year, the teacher models solution-oriented approaches to problems and provides social-emotional skills lessons on problem solving. Students learn to take a chart from the wall pocket and complete it when they have a problem. Then they submit it privately to the teacher. By completing the chart, students learn to identify solutions and possible consequences to the solutions.

For example, Susie, a fictional fourth grader, may be annoyed by the student sitting next to her trying to scribble on her papers. Rather than poking the student or telling the teacher, Susie fills out the Problem Solution Chart. Students may be able to decide on a positive course of action without consulting with the teacher but they can ask the teacher for guidance. Susie may decide to offer a sheet of paper to her “neighbor”

rather than reacting negatively. In this way, students learn to identify potentially negative consequences and to select a solution that is positive. Teachers can consider using a similar strategy in their classrooms to encourage students to problem solve independently.

My Problem

Solutions		Consequences
1.	→	
2.	→	
3.	→	

The Solution I will pick is: