

Need Detective

Students identify classroom problems caused by an unmet need, then choose useful question starters.

K.1.a.ii "asking questions and defining problems identify a problem based on need"

NAME _____

DATE _____

Teacher: this page is run aloud. The script and answers are on the guide page.

1 SPOT PROBLEMS

a	EMPTY	WET	LOUD
b	TORN	DARK	EMPTY
c	DARK	LOUD	WET

2 ASK FIRST

a	WHERE?	WHEN?	WHO?
b	WHO?	HOW?	WHEN?
c	WHEN?	WHERE?	WHY?

HOW TO RUN THIS PAGE

Read each situation and all of the choices aloud before students mark the page. In Part 1, students name the problem that keeps a classroom need from being met. In Part 2, students choose a question starter that could help investigate or solve that problem.

Students never read directions on this sheet. Read each part's script aloud, then each prompt, giving think time before students mark.

PART 1 • SPOT PROBLEMS

SAY “Listen to each classroom situation. I will read the three words in the row. Which word names the problem? Circle that word.”

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	Our class wants to draw, but there are no crayons left in the box. The words are EMPTY, WET, and LOUD. Which word names the problem?	EMPTY
b	We need to read a book, but it is hard to see because the room lights are off. The words are TORN, DARK, and EMPTY. Which word names the problem?	DARK
c	We need paper for writing, but rain came through an open window and soaked the paper. The words are DARK, LOUD, and WET. Which word names the problem?	WET

PART 2 • ASK FIRST

SAY “A question can help us learn more about a problem. Listen to each situation and the question words. Which question word fits what we need to find out? Circle it.”

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	We need crayons for drawing, and the crayon box has none. The words are WHERE, WHEN, and WHO. Which question word asks about a place to look for crayons?	WHERE?
b	We need light to read, but the reading corner is dim. The words are WHO, HOW, and WHEN. Which question word asks for a way to make the corner brighter?	HOW?
c	We need dry paper to write, but the paper is wet. The words are WHEN, WHERE, and WHY. Which question word asks about the time dry paper will be ready?	WHEN?

WHAT TO ACCEPT

Part 1 answers are EMPTY, DARK, and WET. Part 2 answers are WHERE?, HOW?, and WHEN? Accept a clear circle, or a student point paired with the correct oral answer when motor support is needed.