



I Do/ We Do (20 minutes)

Explicitly Teach

- Distribute brainstorm paper: *Today we are going to brainstorm a list of all the problems that are facing you at school today.* Give an example that seems to fit, and maybe engage in short discussion about why that might be a problem for some people, and not for others.
- Students should spend 5 minutes individually brainstorming problems.
- If they come up with a problem they think is especially significant, invite them to raise their hand to share. Brainstorm a class list on chart paper. Vote on the top three problems facing kids in the class today.
- Discuss how all problems have solutions. Introduce **conflict** and **resolution**.
- Explain that we will be making a how-to book: a guide to life. Review the meaning of **draft**.
- Show examples of **books as art**. Many artists make books as their visual art form. They feature unique **binding** and **lettering** styles to make them special.

Keep in Mind

- Go over norms for the art space.
- Reminders on how to use the supplies and materials safely.
- What do I need to keep in mind about myself as I am learning a new art form?
- What should I do if I'm unhappy with my work?



You Do (55 minutes)

The project, step-by-step

- Start with a large sheet of paper (11 x 17 at least).
- Follow the directions to fold a **simple folded working draft book**.
- Label the cover (come up with your own title).
- Label the table of contents, title page, and where chapters 1, 2, and 3 will go.
- Decorate the cover.
- Create an About the Author page in the back with a decorated self-portrait as the author photo

Extensions: Students can decorate and adorn their draft books all they want. These will be theirs to keep and will help them make sure they put down the things they actually want to write.

Closure: Have students partner up. One shares an easy-to-solve problem, the other says the solution. Then partners switch.

Optional Writing Prompt: What problem did we pick today that is most important to you? Why?



Big Picture

We will use these books as drafts as we work toward creating a big class book of How Tos: How to Solve Our Big Problems. We will work on designing beautiful pages and expert binding to create the kind of book we would want to find in the library.



Adjustments for K-1

Warm-Up Phase

Either ask the question or play the game.

I Do/ We Do

You pick the problems: How to Make a Friend, How to Be Kind, What to Do if You Get Mad. Have students practice a role-play about “How to Make a Friend” to demonstrate problem and solution. (*Karen was alone. She didn't have anyone*

to play blocks with! Then she said Hello to Martin. Now Karen is not alone. What was the problem? What was the solution?)

You Do

The book should be simple enough for K and 1 to do; if not, you can precut and fold them, or you can have students simply cut six pages and staple along the spine. They can still decorate and designate pages for chapters.