

Building Classroom Climates -- 2nd Grade -- Making Sense of One's Own and Others' Learning
Video transcript from Day 3: Calling learners' attention to the structure of a problem

MIA BULJAN: We have a problem. I'm going to read it to you. There's no numbers in this problem so I'm going to read it to you like this: when I get to a number I'm going to go "mmm." It says, "Diva" -- our own Diva -- "had 'mmm' stickers. She goes to the store and buys 'mmm' stickers more. How many stickers does she have now?" Can we answer that question?

STUDENTS: No.

STUDENT: Yeah.

MIA BULJAN: Diva?

STUDENT: I have stickers.

MIA BULJAN: I know you have stickers -- that's why I got the idea. Okay. So, first of all I want you to think, just think in your head what's happening in this story. Who's in it and what's happening? Just like when we're doing our reading stories -- who's in it and what are they doing? Who's in it and what are they doing? Natalie -- stop, think. Settle. Think. Rahahn, are you thinking about it? Turn and face me. Good job. Think. Think like this. Sarye, are you thinking? Who is it and what are they doing? Okay, turn to your talking partner and tell them what's happening in the story. A's are going to talk.

STUDENT: Diva has twelve stickers, I think.

MIA BULJAN: We can make some guesses of what they might be but we need to look in our problem for our numbers. Rahahn and Daniel, you will turn completely around now. Who can tell us who is in the story? Who is in the story? Mark?

STUDENT: Diva.

MIA BULJAN: Diva. And what is she doing in the story? What's happening? She's trying to count all of her stickers. Does everybody agree that this is a story about counting her stickers?

STUDENTS: Yes.

MIA BULJAN: No, RJ? What do you think it's about?

STUDENT: It's about her getting stickers at a store.

MIA BULJAN: In this problem, she goes to the store and she gets more stickers. Does everybody agree that she goes to the store and gets some more stickers?

STUDENTS: Yes.

MIA BULJAN: What else can you say about our problem?

STUDENT: I'm bleeding.

MIA BULJAN: You're bleeding.

STUDENTS: Huh?

MIA BULJAN: Is that in the story, Jania? No. I don't have any band-aids and you should not be picking it yourself. Oh my god! Are you okay? You're actually not bleeding, you're okay. Stop. Leave her alone. Stop. Jania, please don't pick at your skin. Thank you. You have such beautiful skin, why do you want to pick at it? Can you not touch it? Thank you. Don't touch it! Don't touch it! Perfect. And afterwards I'm going to get you something to put on it but you're okay for right now. Okay? So if you weren't bleeding, Jania, what would be happening in the story? Tell Jania what's happening in the story first. You said something -- you said who? Jania, do you see that Diva is trying to count her stickers? Okay, RJ added on something, what did RJ add on? Jania, you need to turn and listen to what he's saying. Go ahead RJ.

STUDENT: This story is about Diva gets more stickers in the store.

MIA BULJAN: Okay. So Jania, so far we have Diva's counting all her stickers and we know that she goes to the store to get even more stickers. What else could you tell us about our story? Do you see what Jania is doing right now? Look at Jania. When I asked her what else is happening, she tried to remember first and when she couldn't, guess where her eyes went. Right back to the story. Because in our math stories when we have a question about what's happening, we can go right back to that story and try to make sense of it. So Jania, give everybody...a high five for Jania.