

PROBLEM SOLVING: Once in awhile, the inevitable will happen: you will forget something important at school. (i.e. Blue Folder, math homework assignment, binder) In Room 10 one of the core values I teach is the importance of problem solving. Instead of just saying “oh well” and giving up, please see if you can come up with a strategy to solve your problem.

Here are a few ideas to try:

- Rush back to school to get it in case Mrs. Eller is still there.
- Make sure you have the phone numbers and emails of fellow students. You need to set up an email account for yourself ASAP. It is okay to use an email that you share with your mom or dad. Make sure you know how to access your email from any computer. That means you need to know your login/user name and also your password.
- Can't print out the math facts cover sheet for signatures? Try these ideas: 1) write a mini-version of the chart on a piece of paper or post-it and have your mom or dad sign it, 2) have mom or dad send me an email confirming that you practiced all five days, 3) have mom or dad sign the math fact worksheets instead of the cover sheet.
- Phone a friend - they may be able to tell you the assignment and you can just use binder paper, or they may be able to fax you a copy of the worksheet, or they may be able to scan the worksheet and email it to you.
- Check Edmodo! You can post your questions and hopefully get some help from your classmates. You can ask homework questions too. You might be surprised that someone has already asked and answered your questions!
- If you know what the assignment is, often you can write it on regular lined notebook paper instead of the worksheet you are missing.
- It's a great idea to have a copy of the literature book we are reading at home – that way you can leave your school copy at school and it won't turn into an emergency.
- Write reminders to yourself while at school if you have forgotten things. You could even email yourself a reminder about something from school so when you get home and check your email, you will see it.
- Write notes to yourself at home and post these in obvious places (i.e. IS YOUR HOMEWORK IN YOUR BLUE FOLDER? Could be posted on front door, in your car etc.) You can even put something you must remember in the car the night before or lean it up against your front door. A note on the mirror where I brush my teeth always helps me remember important stuff.
- Make it a habit to ALWAYS put your homework in your backpack the minute you finish it. Don't leave it sitting out on your desk or the kitchen table. Remember, you never forget to take your backpack to school so everything important needs to go directly into your backpack!
- Check the Room 10 Webpage - some worksheets are on-line and can be downloaded and printed at home. Maybe you can blog about it on-line.
- Email Mrs. Eller to ask questions. () If you choose this idea, you MUST recheck your email to see if I replied. It doesn't do any good to email, and then go watch TV and never check back in. If I'm working in the classroom I often check email and might even reply within 5 minutes.
- Use your free time wisely. For example, if you finish your Morning Task early, you finish working on an assignment that you didn't finish instead of choosing to read a book.
- Come early to school to get what you need. (Mrs. Eller is usually at school by 7:45 a.m.) You can work on it before school starts.