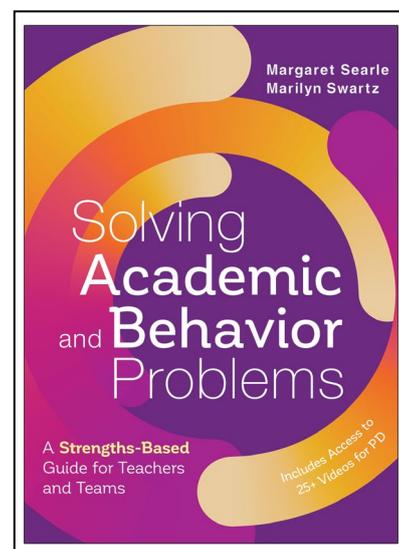


Solving academic and behavior problems

A strengths-based guide for teachers and teams

Margaret Searle and Marilyn Swartz

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Summary

How many times have you been stumped by a student's failure to learn? You tried everything in your toolkit, but nothing worked. Now what if there were a process that would help you pinpoint the student's specific needs and design an action plan to swiftly remedy the problem? In *Solving academic and behavior problems*, Margaret Searle and Marilyn Swartz offer just that.

This process, based on the positive psychology of appreciative inquiry, builds on what *is* working with students to address what is *not* working. It's a system of support that helps general education teachers partner with specialists and parents to learn new ways to enrich academic, social-emotional and behavioural growth through structured conversations and a series of productive meetings of thirty minutes or less.

Using more than twenty-five video clips, Searle and Swartz walk you through the six basic steps of the appreciative inquiry problem-solving process:

1. Connect with team members and stakeholders.
2. Review the meeting focus or concern.
3. Share a story that details when you successfully addressed the concern.
4. Establish a goal using a concise 'DATA' framework.
5. Design an action plan.
6. Commit to an action.

The authors also outline how to use *five whys* to uncover hidden barriers to student achievement when learning isn't improving.

Each chapter contains links to online video examples, activities, reflection questions, scenarios, handy tools and tips from practitioners. A great resource to strengthen RTI and MTSS plans and invaluable to teachers, support staff and administration alike, *Solving academic and behavior problems* provides the kind of insights and guidance that expand and sharpen educators' capacity to help all students learn.

Other resources

- *Causes & cures in the classroom: Getting to the root of academic and behavior problems* (113019)
- *Uniting academic and behavior interventions: Solving the skill or will dilemma* (SOT0539)
- *The behaviour management toolkit: Avoiding exclusion at school* (SA3665)
- *Moment to moment: A positive approach to managing classroom behavior* (PBP7668)
- *Pyramid of behavior interventions: Seven keys to a positive learning environment* (SOT2301)