

## Problem Solving

### Good features in this lesson

- Lesson started with a song (not shown here) – a nice way to settle the children down, and didn't take too much lesson time.
- The children were reminded of good manners, ie to greet the guests
- The revision of  $\text{speed} = \text{distance}/\text{time}$  was introduced with a story that the teacher told as a real incident that she witnessed: "Shao Ming saw an old lady sitting in front of her house. Her house was a mess, so Shao Ming decided to help her. He went home to get some cleaning materials. He took 3 minutes to get there. So I have made up a problem about this: what is the distance between Shao Ming's and the old lady's homes?"
- Teacher then built onto this problem further: "This problem was about people helping. How can we reword the next problem on the topic of how to help others?" New problem: Xiao Guo and Xiao Li were going to the park to pick up rubbish to protect the environment. Do you have a habit to pick up rubbish? I hope you will protect the environment every day and encourage others to protect the environment."
- Other values talk: "If someone makes a mistake, don't sneer at them – we should encourage and help." One child asks a question and chooses a good friend to answer it – "It is important to help good friends."
- Values talk: "When Xiao Guo and Xiao Li meet together, what might they say to each other?" Children suggest, "How much rubbish did you pick up? Why did you come here to help?" Teacher reminds, "We can learn from these students."
- Values talk: "Some people like using different methods. Whatever you use to get the same answer is good. I hope you can use your strengths to help others." "If you see someone sitting in class and having trouble, how will you help him?"
- Teacher used silent thinking as a tool to help to find a solution to the problem
- Children feel very confident to speak up.
- Teacher looked as if she was having fun