

Name: _____

Problem Solved

by Annette Gulati

I'm tired of my sister
chasing me around.
Following me everywhere,
Up the stairs and down.



She'll have to look much harder,
to track me down today.
'Cause I just solved my problem--
A secret hideaway.

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1. Show the problem and solution in the poem.

Problem	→	Solution
_____		_____
_____		_____
_____		_____
_____		_____

2. What does the phrase “track me down” mean in the poem?

- a. to hide from me
- b. to figure out where I am
- c. to hear me
- d. to run fast

3. Name three places at your home that would make a good secret hideaway.

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

Name: _____

“Problem Solved” Poem

Activity Ideas

1. Students can draw a picture of a place they might use as a secret hideaway in their home. Then, write two or three sentences to describe it.
2. Before reading the poem, tell students about the problem.
“The boy in our poem today has a problem. His sister keeps chasing him all around the house. How might he solve this problem?”
Brainstorm a list of ideas on chart paper, or on the chalkboard.
3. Have students count the syllables in each line to find the pattern.
4. Ask the students to tell what might happen next in the poem. They could write their ideas in a complete sentence. Higher students could even add an additional stanza to the poem.
5. Have the students -

Find two contractions, and underline them in blue.
(I'm and she'll. There may be 3, if you count the word 'cause.)

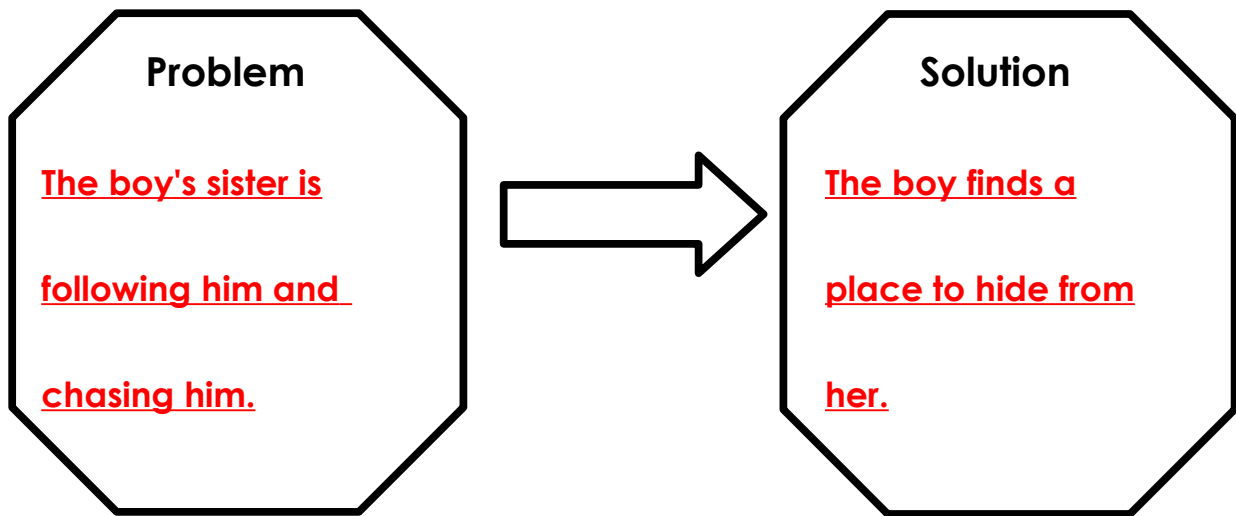
Find two compound words and underline them in red.
(Everywhere and hideaway are the two compound words.
The word *today* is sometimes considered a compound word also.)

ANSWER KEY

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1. Show the problem and solution in the poem.



2. What does the phrase "track me down" mean in the poem? **b**
 - a. to hide from me
 - b. to figure out where I am**
 - c. to hear me
 - d. to run fast
3. Name three places at your home that would make a good secret hideaway.
 1. **Answers will vary.** _____
 2. _____
 3. _____