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Myself

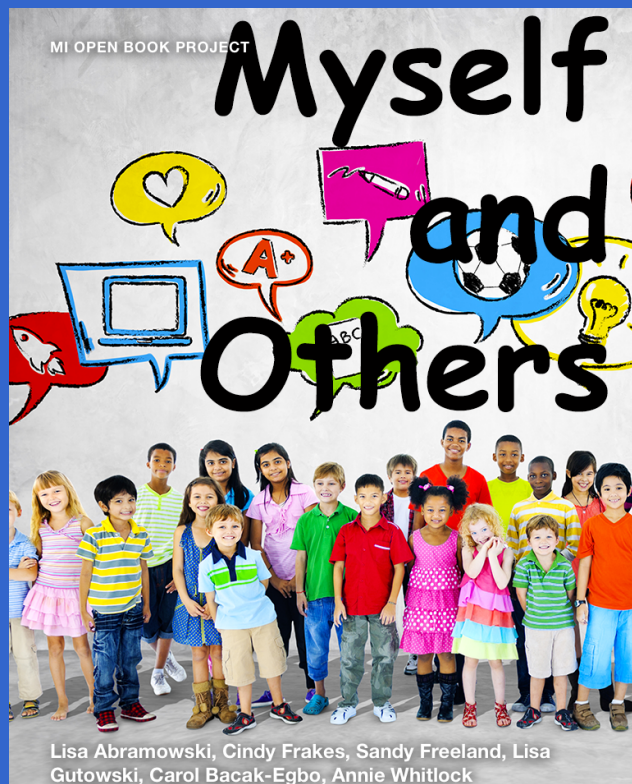


Lisa Abramowski, Cindy Frakes, Sandy Freeland, Lisa Gutowski, Carol Bacak-Egbo, Annie McMahon Whitlock

**Myself and
Others**



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This is Version 1.0 of this resource, released August 2017.

Information on the latest version and updates are available on the project homepage: <http://textbooks.wmisd.org/dashboard.html>



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The Michigan Open Book Project

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Joseph Baumann

Melissa Kendell

Kelli Simons



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About the Authors - Myself And Others



Lisa Abramowski

Belmont Elementary

Rockford Public Schools

Lisa Abramowski teaches kindergarten at Belmont Elementary School in the Rockford Public School District. She is currently in her seventh year of teaching and loves helping the littlest learners fall in love with school for the first time. Lisa is also a technology coach who especially enjoys teaching coding to her building's K-2 students. When Lisa is not coding with kinders or facilitating guided reading groups, she can often be spotted training for marathons, baking in her kitchen, or drinking far too much coffee.

Cyndi Frakes

Indian Lake Elementary

Vicksburg Community Schools

Cyndi, a graduate of Vicksburg Community Schools, has spent much of her life in Vicksburg, MI. She pursued a career in Education obtaining her Undergraduate and Master's degrees from Western Michigan University. For the past 23 years, she has been blessed to teach Kindergarten at Vicksburg's Indian Lake Elementary, while continuously serving on the district's Social Studies Curriculum Committee. It is her passion to teach Social Studies to young children. Cyndi brings history and geography to life for her students by sharing memories of growing up and living in the farming community. She received the Educator of the Year Award from Kalamazoo County Farm Bureau for her work in promoting the understanding, appreciation, and support of agriculture.



Sandy Freeland

McBain Elementary School

McBain Rural Agricultural School

Sandy is a full time teacher at McBain Elementary School in McBain Michigan. She has taught Kindergarten and Third Grade during her time there. In addition to classroom teaching she's also provided technology professional development for the district. Outside of the school day she can be found learning from others in Twitter chats, participating in groups on Facebook, and working on developing a coding club for her school.



Lisa Gutowski

KND Elementary

Kaleva Normon Dickson

I have taught kindergarten for the past 21 years and I still enjoy working with little kids everyday. My husband and I live in Onkama. We have two wonderful children named Jackson and Madison. I love coming home to them each day. I also enjoy reading, walking, gardening, spending time with my family and friends, and going to Disney World.

Annie McMahon Whitlock

Assistant Professor

University of Michigan-Flint

Annie McMahon Whitlock is an Assistant Professor of Elementary Education at University of Michigan-Flint. In addition to teaching the elementary social studies methods course, she is the Elementary Education Program Coordinator, focusing on the student teaching experience. Her research is centered on teaching social studies through civic engagement, place-based inquiry, and integrating language arts and literature.



David A. Johnson

Project Manager

Michigan Open Book Project

Dave began his career teaching 8th grade United States History in Mesick, Michigan. After almost a decade in the classroom, he took a job at Wexford-Missaukee Intermediate School District (WMISD) as an Instructional Consultant for Social Studies. He is shared across 11 ISDs in Northern Michigan that form the Northern Michigan Learning Consortium. He completed his Masters in Educational Leadership through Central Michigan University in 2011 and is Co-Project Director of the Performance Assessments of Social Studies Thinking (PASST) Project in addition to his duties as the Project Manager for MI Open Book.

The Michigan Open Book
Project

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Carol Gersmehl - Michigan
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The Cadillac Footlites (readers
for Widgets)



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Melissa Kendell -

Melissa has enjoyed performing in productions like Into the Woods and a Christmas Story. She's been a part of various charity performances including the annual United Way Murder Mystery and Dancing with the Y Stars.



Widget Readers - Myself and Others

Joseph Baumann -

Joe joined the Cadillac Footlites in 2016, coming from having performed many times on the stage with Riverwalk Theater in Lansing, Michigan. Some of his favorite roles have been Lancelot in Camelot, Captain Scott in Terra Nova, and Nathan Rothschild in the Rothschilds.

Kelli Simons -

Kelli has been in many local theater productions including the Mother in a Christmas Story, the Baker's Wife in Into the Woods, Tansy McGinnis in the Nerd. She comes from a talented theatrical family.

How do people solve problems to make things better?

A final performance task



For Teachers

You may be tempted to skip this short section. It is brief in comparison to previous chapters but it is ultimately one of the most important. Students have spent their entire class period up to this point exploring and learning more about foundational social studies concepts. This is the chapter that puts it all together.

If the purpose of social studies is to create an engaged and knowledgeable citizen, this chapter is the blueprint for assessing what they've learned. Students are walked through a problem faced by a fictional elementary school classroom. The next natural step from here is for students to identify a problem their own school faces and walk through the same steps. In the end they will have identified a problem, looked at data, and ultimately create a plan of action for solving the problem.

Like the students in your class, this chapter is small but mighty.



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How do people solve problems to make things better?

WORDS TO INTRODUCE:

problem

issue

For the Teacher:

K-P3.1.1 Identify classroom issues.

K-P3.1.2 Use simple graphs to explain information about a classroom issue.

K-P3.3.1 Express a position on a classroom issue.

K-P4.2.1 Develop and implement an action plan to address or inform others about a public issue.

K-P4.2.2 Participate in projects to help or inform others.

Teacher Directions

This section is both a story and an opportunity - a story about problems in a school, and an opportunity for students to tackle one of their own, demonstrating everything they've learned as part of their social studies experiences this year.

The action your students will take may be small, but it's an important foundation to reinforcing that as they grow older, the opportunities to identify issues, expressing a position, and developing a plan to address it are skills every citizen need.



When people live and work together, problems can occur. A problem is something difficult that needs to be solved.

Have you ever had a **problem** with a friend? What did you do to make it better?



Classrooms and schools can have problems too.

Sometimes kids work together to solve the problem.

Sometimes the principal or teacher can help solve the problem.



After the problem is solved, sometimes you might agree with the solution. Sometimes you might disagree. When some people agree with the solution but other people disagree, this is called an **issue**.



Let's take a look at a problem at Storybook Elementary School.

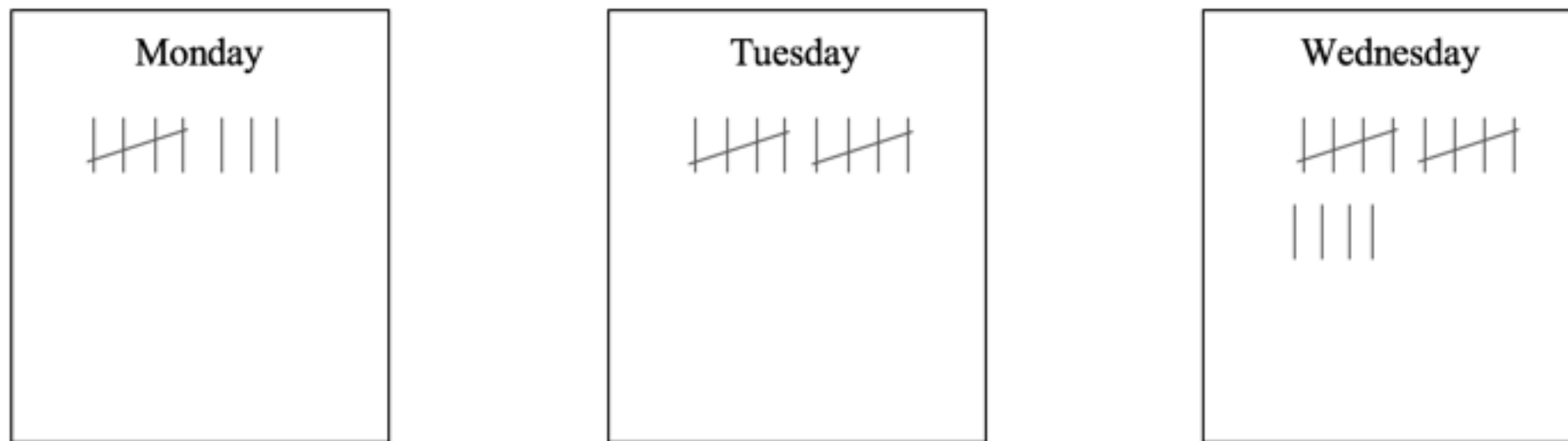


There is a big problem on the playground at Storybook Elementary. Some of the students keep climbing up the slide instead of sliding down.



Principal Wolfe decided to solve the problem by closing the slide for all of the kids at Storybook Elementary.

Number of Students that Climbed up the Slide



Mrs. Goose's class decided to learn more about the slide problem. They decided to tally how many students were climbing up the slide during recess time each day. Here are their results.

What do you notice about their results? Is the problem getting better or worse? How do you know?

From their data, Mrs. Goose's students learned that the slide problem needed to be solved.





Some of the students in Mrs. Goose's class thought it was a good idea to close the slide for everyone. Other students thought this was not fair. This became an issue for Mrs. Goose's class.



What do you think? Is it a fair solution to close the slide for everyone?

Close the Slide	Keep the Slide Open
Students going down the slide could get hurt	It's not fair to the students that are not climbing up the slide
Students going up the slide could fall off	The slide is fun
It's hard to know whose turn it is	

Mrs. Goose's class decided to discuss the issue. The students who agreed that the slide should be closed shared their thinking. The students who thought the slide should stay open shared their thinking. Mrs. Goose recorded their ideas on this T-chart.

To solve the problem, the students decided to ask Principal Wolfe to open the slide but to make a rule that helps keep everyone safe on the slide.





The students needed a plan to tell others about their solution. What could Mrs. Goose's class do?



Mrs. Goose's class made posters to help other students learn about the new rule.



What is one problem that you see in your own classroom? How can you use the steps that Mrs. Goose's class used to help solve the problem?

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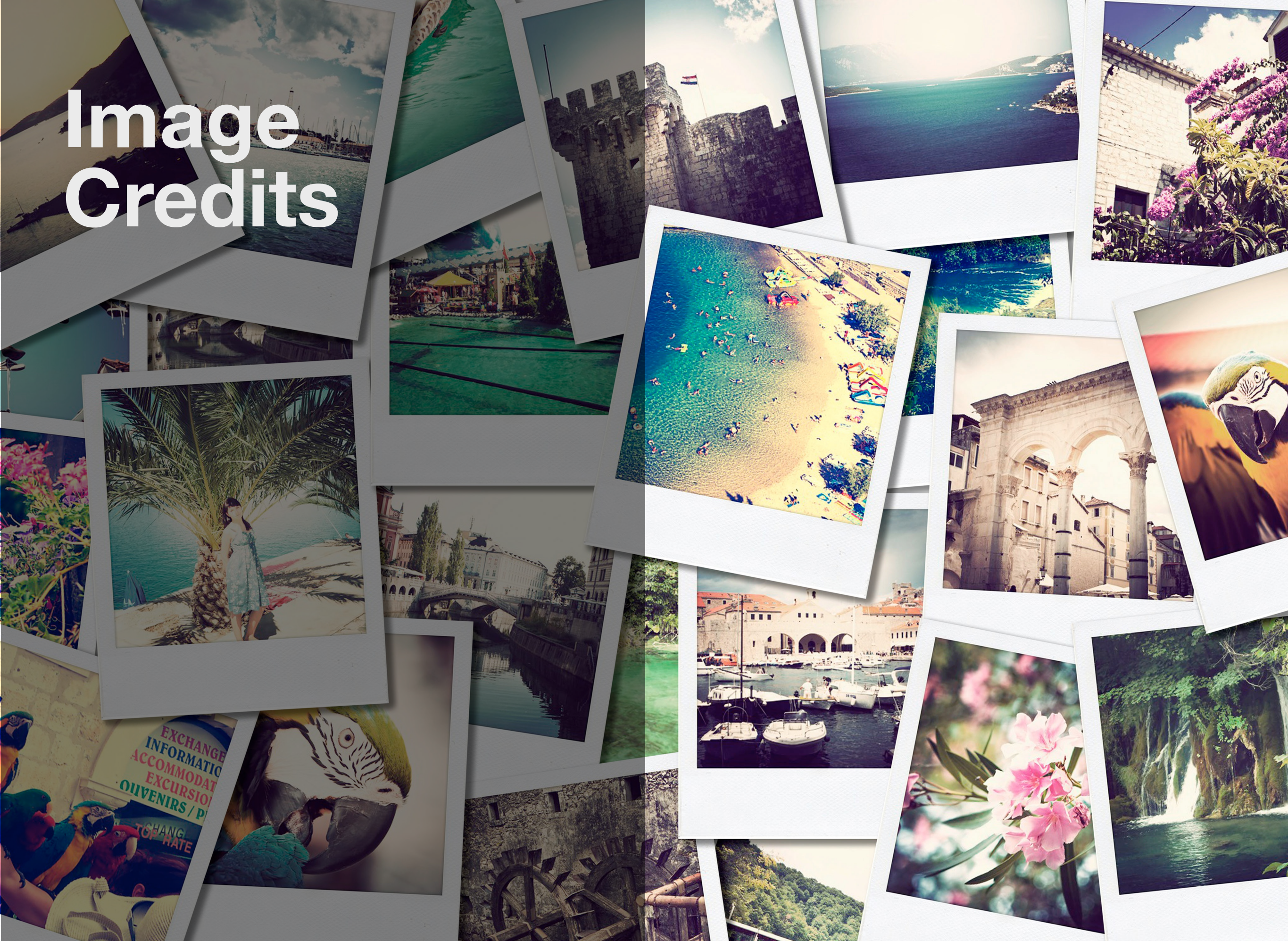


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