How to develop:

Ability to problem solve

Strategies

- **Build opportunities into everyday moments** – using what the child sees, does, hears everyday.
- **Use visual support** - gesture, objects, photographs, symbols.
- **Use items/games the child enjoys** to keep the activity motivating.

Activities

Simple Solutions:
Adult presents simple problem and child says what they would decide to do to solve problem and explain why. Group then should discuss the different solutions e.g. *"What would you do if you fell over?"* or *"What would you do if your pencil broke?"*

Thinking of relevant questions:
Ask the child to tell you what questions they should ask if they were told **x.**
E.g.:
Teacher*: "What would you ask if you were told you were going on holiday?"*
Child: "Where are we going? When are we going?"

What to do/use:
Adult presents simple scenarios and asks the child what they could do/use next to solve the problem. Children to come up with different suggestions and evaluate what might work best e.g. "if water spilled on the floor and there was no tissue, what could you use to clean it up?" etc.

Why can't we:
Adult presents simple scenarios and asks the child "why can't we". Children to come up with different reasons and to think of what we can do instead e.g. "why can't we eat soup with a fork?", "why can't we eat chocolate for breakfast?" etc.