

**Skill Area(s):**  
 Functional Problem Solving  
 Perspective Taking  
 Stress/Behavior

## Judge Judy Books

**Level:** intermediate, advanced

**Topic:** learn how to use problem-solving strategies to make the right choices.

**Goal:** to help children learn how to apply problem-solving strategies in every day life.

**Materials needed:** You Can't Judge a Book by It's Cover and /or Win or Lose by How You Choose both books by: Judge Judy Sheindlin's and Illustrated by Bob Tore. You will also need to have previously taught the child or children problem-solving strategies such as SODA (stop, observe, decide, and act).

**Activity:** Start by reviewing the SODA problem-solving strategy. The reason this one is used so often is because it is catchy and easy to remember. It can also be applied to most any situation, big or small. After you know the children have a good idea of how to apply this strategy you can either begin by showing the book(s) to them or simply making copies of scenarios out of the book to use with them. Each book contains functional every-day situations along with multiple choice solutions. An example out of Win or Lose by How You Choose:

You promised your mother you would do your homework, but your friends are waiting for you to come out and play ball.

*You should:*

- A. Sneak out the window - nobody will know.
- B. Nag your mother until she lets you out jut to get rid of you.
- C. Rush through your homework so that you can go out.
- D. Tell your friends you can't go.

This is a great time to discuss pros/cons and consequences of our actions. Each situation has a black and white drawing that accompanies. Both books are wonderful resources.