

Approach: One to one

Year: 4 &amp; 8

Focus: Resolving differences within a social organisation

Resources: Video recording on laptop computer, recording book

**Questions / instructions:**

This activity uses the computer.

We are going to start this activity by watching a video of a girl called Saikoloni. Saikoloni will tell you about a problem she has at school.

**Click the *Saikoloni* button.**  
**The video will start.**

**VIDEO SCRIPT:**

Talofa lava. My name is Saikoloni Tapumuulietoa and I come from a beautiful village in Samoa called Patamea. There are lots of coconuts to eat and lots of beaches to swim at.

I was born during a cyclone which is a big storm. There was a lot of damage done by the cyclone. Houses and trees all blew down and everywhere was flooded. My uncle and cousins were killed in the cyclone, so my mother named me "Saikoloni" in their memory.

I used to like going to school but now I hate it. Every day when it's roll call my teacher, Mrs Brown, calls everyone's name out. No trouble. But when it comes to my name, she suddenly gets tongue-tied. As soon as she starts to speak, I feel sick because I know what she will say. When she says my name, it makes all the other kids crack-up laughing. Their laughter sounds like broken glass. You know – sharp and painful.

*SCHOOL JOURNAL 1991. PART 4, NUMBER 2*

1. There is more than one problem here. What do you think the problems are? I will write them down for you.

teacher hasn't been pronouncing  
Saikoloni's name appropriately  
other children laugh when teacher  
mispronounces Saikoloni's name  
Saikoloni may not have  
reacted appropriately  
(could have done more proactively to  
correct pronunciation and explain name)

**Record student responses, abbreviated as necessary.**

2. Which people are involved in these problems?

Saikoloni  
teacher  
peers in class

3. Who should do something about these problems?

not marked

4. What do you think they should do to try to solve these problems?

Saikoloni working with teacher  
to fix pronunciation  
teacher trying to learn  
proper pronunciation  
teacher/principal/staff helping class  
learn how to behave more kindly  
peers trying to stop hurting Saikoloni  
through their laughter  
Saikoloni asking parents to  
help deal with problem  
parents dealing with problem  
appropriately (e.g. talking to teacher)  
Saikoloni talking to peers

% response  
2005 ('01)  
year 4 year 8

58 (51) 75 (74)

82 (78) 90 (85)

1 (1) 3 (2)

38 (30) 56 (65)

74 (80) 89 (91)

71 (66) 86 (87)

• •

19 (15) 36 (38)

21 (18) 40 (37)

32 (35) 44 (31)

16 (16) 21 (19)

13 (12) 20 (20)

32 (23) 29 (38)

10 (5) 17 (16)

**Probable helpfulness of  
suggested solutions:**

likely to be very helpful

likely to be moderately helpful

likely to be slightly helpful

not likely to be helpful

5. What could be done so that problems like these don't happen?

not marked

% response  
2005 ('01)  
year 4 year 8

3 (0) 8 (8)

18 (13) 38 (30)

40 (43) 38 (50)

39 (44) 16 (12)

• •

**Total score:** 11–15 4 (2) 11 (12)

9–10 9 (9) 24 (20)

7–8 21 (15) 28 (30)

5–6 30 (31) 25 (25)

3–4 22 (22) 10 (11)

0–2 14 (21) 2 (2)

**Commentary:**

Although very few students saw Saikoloni's inaction as a problem, many more saw her as part of the solution. About 25 percent more year 8 than year 4 students suggested helpful solutions to the problems. Between 2001 and 2005, there was a small improvement for year 4 students and no change for year 8 students.