



## Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

### DID YOU KNOW?

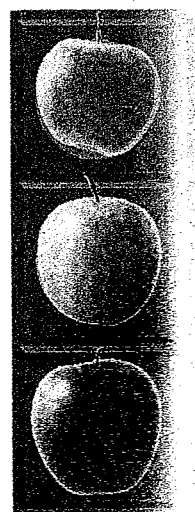
- **Starting** in preschool and kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- **Missing** 10%, or about 2 days each month over the course of a school year, can make it harder to learn to read.
- **Students** can still fall behind if they miss just 1 or 2 days every few weeks.
- **Being late** to school may lead to poor attendance.
- **Absences** and tardiness can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

**Attending** school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this **habit** in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Eventually **good attendance** will be a skill that will help them succeed in high school and college.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

- **Set a regular bedtime** and morning routine.
- **Lay out clothes and pack backpacks** the night before.
- **Keep your child healthy** and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce **your children to their teachers** and classmates before school starts.
- Develop backup **plans for getting to school** if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor or another parent.
- Try to schedule **non-Covid-19 related medical** appointments and extended trips when school isn't in session.
- If your child seems anxious about **going to school**, talk to teachers, school counselors and other parents for **advice on how to make your child feel comfortable and excited about learning**.
- If you are concerned that your child may have Covid-19, call your school for advice.
- If your child must stay home due to illness or quarantine, ask the teacher for resources and ideas to continue learning at home.

### When Do Absences Become a Problem?



**CHRONIC ABSENCE**  
18 or more days

**WARNING SIGNS**  
10 to 17 days

**SATISFACTORY**  
9 or fewer absences

Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.

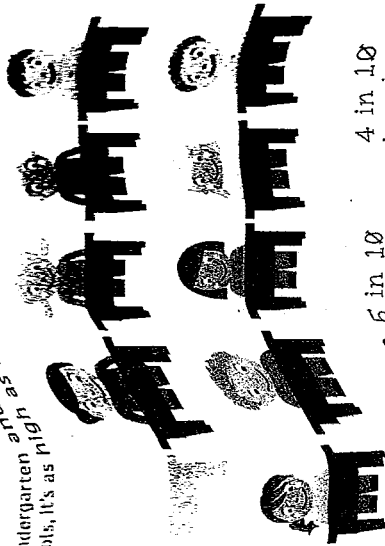
Revised October 2021

Visit Attendance Works at [www.attendanceworks.org](http://www.attendanceworks.org) for free downloadable resources and tools!

# ATTENDANCE

## Who Is Affected?

Kindergarten and in high school, up to lost time in the 1950s, as high as those still excluded, but they



2 in 10 kids  
low-income kids

2.5 in 10  
homeless kids

4 in 10  
transient kids

miss too much  
school when  
families move.<sup>2</sup>

are chronically  
absent.<sup>2</sup>



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transient kids  
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## Why It Matters

If children don't show fundamental reading of good attendance then preliminary data from were chronically absent likely to read prog.

Wm. C. Wood

January 9



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*Attendance in Early Childhood and Third Grade Outcomes*