

The Importance of Regular School Attendance

It's a fact that students who attend school regularly learn more and are more successful in school than students who do not. Parents who make regular school attendance a priority also are helping their children learn to accept responsibility. And that's an important lesson for a successful life.

Attendance patterns are formed early in life. Children who develop good attendance habits in the early grades will be more likely to continue them throughout their school career. That's important, because students who miss school miss out on carefully planned sequences of instruction. They miss out on active learning experiences and class participation. They miss out on the opportunity

to ask questions. They are more likely to fall behind. And they are more likely to drop out.

What Parents Can Do

1. Let your child know that you expect her to attend school every day. Explain that, just as you have a job, it's her job to go to school and learn.
2. Set a time for doing homework each evening and a time for going to bed. Unfinished homework and too little sleep are common reasons why parents hear the words, "I don't feel good," on school mornings.
3. Get involved with your child's school. When she sees you in the halls or the classrooms she'll understand that school is important.



**Parents in *Action* for
Student Achievement**

Copyright © 2003 The Parent Institute, a division of NIS, Inc.
www.parent-institute.com · Reprinted with permission.