



# every day counts

ATTEND TODAY -

ACHIEVE TOMORROW!

**Help Your Child Succeed in School:**

**Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early**

*School success goes hand in hand with good attendance!*

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

- ✓ Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- ✓ Missing 10 percent of school (about 2 days a month or 18 days a year) makes it harder to learn to read.
- ✓ Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.
- ✓ Being late to school disrupts the start of class and can make your child miss important lessons.
- ✓ Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.
- ✓ Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work.

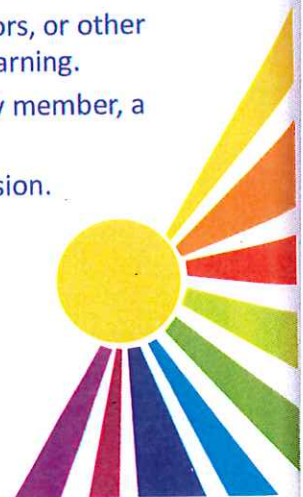
***Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school – and themselves. Start building this habit early so they can learn right away that going to school on time and every day is important.***

## **WHAT YOU CAN DO**

- ✓ Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- ✓ Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- ✓ Find out what day school starts and make sure your child has the required shots.
- ✓ Send your child the message that school is a fun place. Introduce your child to his/her teachers and classmates before school starts to help her transition.
- ✓ Bring your child to school unless he/she is truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
- ✓ If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors, or other parents for advice on how to make him/her feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- ✓ Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent for help.
- ✓ Plan medical appointments and extended trips when school is closed or not in session.
- ✓ Keep track of how many days your child has missed and how many times they've been late.

For more information, visit our website at: [atschool.alcoda.org](http://atschool.alcoda.org)

Adapted with permission from materials provided by Attendance Works ([www.attendanceworks.org](http://www.attendanceworks.org))





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