

Attendance is still important at year's end

You know that it's important for your child to be in school. But this would be such a wonderful time to take a family trip. And, after all, your child is only in first grade. Surely a few days' absence won't matter, will it?

It will. In fact, research shows that elementary schoolers don't have to miss much school before their learning suffers. In the early grades, students are mastering reading and basic math skills. And these are the skills most affected when children miss school. Being in school consistently is the only way students can develop a strong foundation on which to build the rest of their learning.

When your child misses school, he is not the only one who pays a price. When the teacher has to stop to meet the needs of a student who was out of school, everyone else's learning comes to a halt.

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