When elementary students miss school, they miss out on a lot

With winter break coming up, you may be planning to take your child out of school for an extra day or two. You'll just ask the teacher for advance homework. Missing a few days won't really matter, will it?

Actually, those few days of absence can matter a lot. Think about the things your child may be missing that can't be made up.

The class discussion about the book everyone is reading can't be captured in homework. Neither can the science demonstration or the group project for history. In some subjects, like math, learning builds on what students learned in the previous lesson.

Even doing extra homework will not make up for the things your child misses when she's out of school. So, instead of taking your child out of school, make an extra effort to improve her attendance this month.

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