

Improving School Attendance



Solution
Based
Casework

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1. Parents have found that they have to **begin the night before** if they are to be successful in the morning.
2. It is very important to **have a specific bedtime for school nights** that allows at least 7 to 8 hours of sleep.
3. Parents find it effective to **prepare for the morning** by putting school books by the door, laying out clothes, and discussing any activities that will be occurring in the next school day.
4. It is helpful to **have a regular morning routine** for waking up, getting cleaned up and eating some breakfast.
5. You will want to **teach your children to use an alarm clock**, and you too have yours set to wake up prior to your children.
6. When parents are not home in the morning due to work, it is often necessary to have a trusted person check on the children to **insure they get ready and actually leave for school.**
7. Parents often choose to go with their child in the morning to **insure they get on the school bus and arrive at school.**
8. Parents who **work in partnership with the school** (i.e. daily contact, requesting daily/weekly progress reports, thank you cards) are the most successful at improving school attendance.
9. It is important for parents to **establish consequences** for tardiness or non-attendance (i.e. no TV, no phone calls, etc).
10. If the child is suspended, **request an in-school suspension.**
11. If school performance is an issue, **request testing for appropriate school/class placement.**
12. Remember to **celebrate and reward good attendance** as soon as it occurs on a routine basis.