



2022-2023 School Year

## IDEAS FOR STUDENTS IN

Grades 5-8

You are your child's biggest advocate because you have the greatest hand in his or her future success. Help your child **Stay in the Game** and keep learning every day so he or she is challenged, prepared and empowered for the future.

## Did You KNOW?



Learning every day helps your child understand the importance of attendance at a young age.



Missing one or two days of school every few weeks is enough to cause a student to become chronically absent. Chronic absence can result in a student not being able to read proficiently by third grade, which can lead to failure in middle school and dropout in high school.



Students, especially those who have been chronically absent (missed more than 10% of school) in the past, are significantly more likely to NOT log on to online learning platforms and engage in remote education regularly.



Students are more likely to participate, focus and learn in classrooms, be it in person or remotely, if they feel safe (emotionally and physically), connected, supported and believe they can learn and achieve.

## Steps you can take to help your child get to school and Stay in the Game.

### Discuss Attendance Goals

- Talk with your child about the importance of learning every day.
- Talk to your child's teacher or principal about attendance and any problems your child might have at school and learning every day.
- Make sure you know the attendance policies at your child's school, including what to do if your child misses school, incentives and the outcomes of missed attendance.
- Monitor your child's learning pace and progress across all courses for attendance, participation and performance and seek his or her teacher's help as soon as he or she starts to fall behind.
- Talk to your student and reinforce the importance of handwashing, cough and sneeze etiquette and staying home when sick.

### Develop Smart Routines

- Prioritize the importance of a good night's sleep: school works the brain and the brain needs rest.
- Set a daily get-to-school time, which is when your child should leave for school or engage in remote learning.
- Create a learning schedule with your child to help keep him or her on task. A consistent and predictable routine for learning every day gives children an assuring sense of stability.
- Monitor your child's online activities. Know your child's friends and understand their social interactions.
- Help your child adapt to new learning environments, including when to complete assignments, where to work and how to manage competing priorities and schedule conflicts.
- Encourage movement and physical activities such as walking/running, playing sports, dancing and finding creative ways of learning in the outdoors.



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### Additional steps you can take to help your child get to school and Stay in the Game!



#### Plan Schedules Accordingly

- Make sure your child has required medical examinations. Keep up with your child's well-being check-ups and schedule medical appointments after school or outside of the school day, when possible.
- Schedule vacations when school is not in session.

#### Track Missed Days



- Complete the Stay in the Game Tracker with your child on a regular basis.
- The attendance tracker will help you see and track how much school your child has missed.

#### Connect with Educators



- Check-in regularly to monitor progress and follow up with your child's teacher if he or she misses school.
- Let someone at school know if you are having trouble getting your child to school or obtaining remote education resources—whether you face issues with internet connectivity, food, transportation, child care or something else.
- Make sure all your contact information is up to date with your child's school and maintain frequent contact with his or her teacher.

## Know the



## Attendance Zones



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