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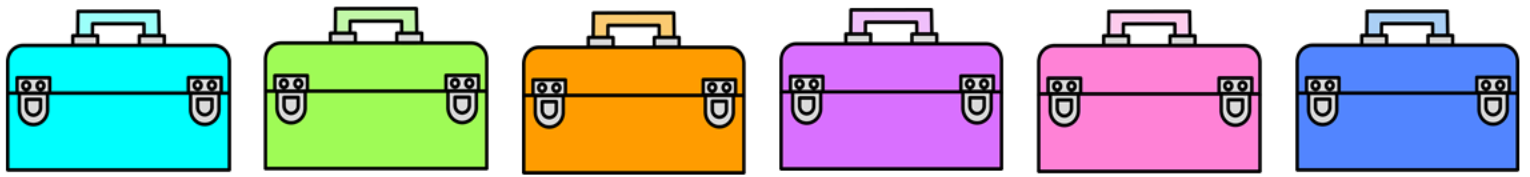


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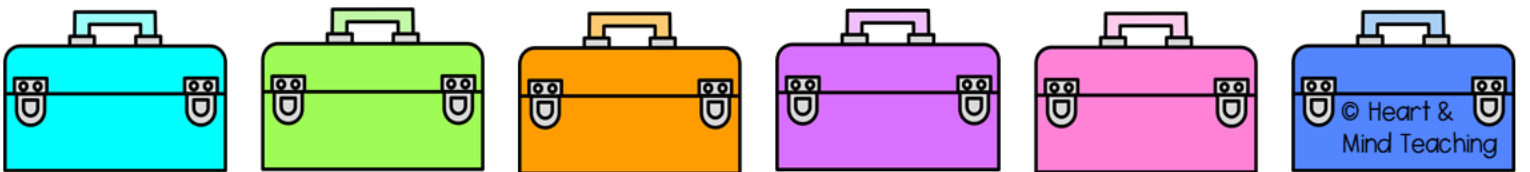


If you have any questions or concerns please email me at:
heartandmindteaching@gmail.com

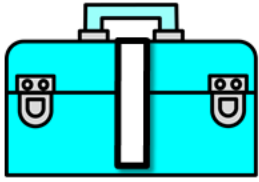
♥
Ashley



BEHAVIOR TOOLBOX Truancy



BEHAVIOR TOOLBOX



Truancy

What it looks like

- *Student is frequently absent and/or tardy,
- *Student may skip class during certain periods of the school day or the entire school day.
- *Student does not see the need to attend school regularly, and has little incentive to do so.
- *This student is only thinking about his/her interests which are not school related.
- *May have older friends and is not involved in school clubs or activities.
- *May appear as an unhappy child.
- *Student who is skipping class may be doing so without his/her parents' permission. If parents are aware, they might feel they need the student at home to help and/or they do not see the value of attending school.
- *Teachers often have to reteach missed information to the truant child, classmates have a hard time viewing the student as a part of the class.

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Truancy

BEHAVIOR TOOLBOX



Truancy

What to do

*Try to find a role for the student that will make them feel needed. For example, classroom helper, safety patrol, student counsel, a school club or sport. Get the student a mentor.

*A parent conference is vital, explain the importance of attending school to the parent. The student has unlimited potential that is being stifled by his absenteeism. When he/she is absent they miss what is being taught, then when they come back are always struggling to keep up with what they missed and what is now being taught. Explain to parents that "research shows missing 10% Of school (roughly 18 days total and only 2 days a month) negatively affects a student's academic performance."

*Discuss the concern with the student's former teachers.

*When speaking to the student, ask him/her "What will you lose by not coming to school?", "What will you gain by coming to school"?

*Ensure the student knows you want him/her in school, when they are in school make it a big deal and praise them for improving their attendance. Say "I can't wait to show you what we are going to learn tomorrow", try to get them excited to be there the next day. Consider a positive reward chart for attending school.

*Always make sure that there is not something being done at school to push the student to be more absent (ex-bullying).

*Tardies should also be addressed, explain to parents that instruction is being missed. The student comes in and is rushing to get to where the rest of the class is, it creates a sense of chaos for the student. It is important for the child to learn the importance of being on time, he/she will carry that through their life.

*If the student continues to be absent and/or tardy after you have spoken to the parent, involve a School Counselor or School Social Worker.

Truancy

BEHAVIOR TOOLBOX



Truancy

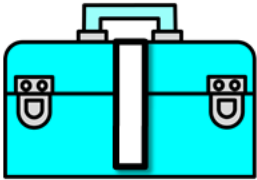
What NOT to do

- *Do not focus too much on the missed work, rather the missed learning.
- *Do not lose interest in the child or view them as a failure.
- *Do not overlook absences when they start to first appear, address them right away.
- *Do not fail to speak to others about the concern and wait till the end of the year to address it.
- *Do not view absenteeism as a family problem and not your problem. Instead, approach it as we need to work as a team to improve for the child's best interest.
- *When the student comes back to school after absences, do not berate the child for the absences. This could create more absences in the future. Instead simply say, "We missed you while you were away, we are so happy you are back and we can't wait to show you what we learned while you were gone".
- *Do not forget to remind the child of their importance before they leave school, say "Tomorrow morning I need help with _____, I hope I can count on you to be here."

Truancy

BEHAVIOR TOOLBOX

Truancy Quick Guide



what it looks like

- *Student is frequently absent and/or tardy.
- *Student does not see the need to attend school regularly, and has little incentive to do so.
- *This student is only thinking about his/her interests which are not school related.
- *May have older friends and is not involved in school activities.
- *If parents are aware, they might feel they need the student at home to help and/or they do not see the value of attending school.



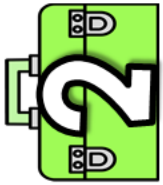
what to do

- *Try to find a role for the student that will make them feel needed. For example, classroom helper, school club, mentor.
- *A parent conference is vital, explain the importance of attending school to the parent. Explain to parents that "research shows missing 10% Of school (roughly 18 days total and only 2 days a month) negatively affects a student's academic performance."
- *When speaking to the student, ask him/her "What will you lose by not coming to school?", "What will you gain?"
- *Ensure the student knows you want him/her in school, when they are in school make it a big deal and praise them for improving their attendance. Say "I can't wait to show you what we are going to learn tomorrow", try to get them excited to be there the next day. Consider a positive reward chart for attending school.
- *Always make sure that there is not something being done at school to push the student to be more absent (ex-bullying).
- *If the student continues to be absent and/or tardy after you have spoken to the parent, involve a School Counselor or School Social Worker.



what NOT to do

- *Do not focus too much on the missed work.
- *Do not lose interest in the child or view them as a failure.
- *Do not overlook absences when they start to first appear, address them right away.
- *Do not fail to speak to others about the concern and don't wait too long to.
- *Do not view absenteeism as a family problem and not your problem. Instead, approach it as we need to work as a team to improve for the child's best interest.
- *When the student comes back to school, do not berate the child for the absences.
- *Do not forget to remind the child of their importance before they leave.



Truancy

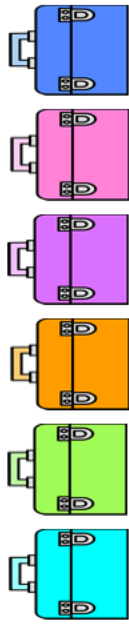
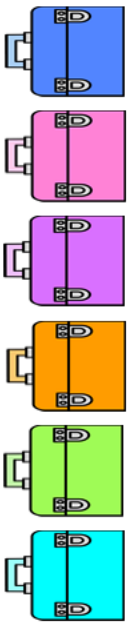
What to do (Cont.)

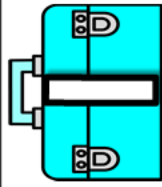
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- *Tardies should also be addressed, explain to parents that instruction is being missed. The student comes in and is rushing to get to where the rest of the class is, it creates a sense of chaos for the student. It is important for the child to learn the importance of being on time, he/she will carry that through their life.
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"A change in
behavior
begins with a
change in
the heart."

BEHAVIOR TOOLBOX

Truancy

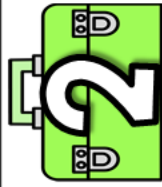




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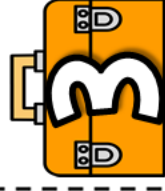


2 Truancy

What to do

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- Consider a positive reward chart for attending school.

(Continues on the flap)



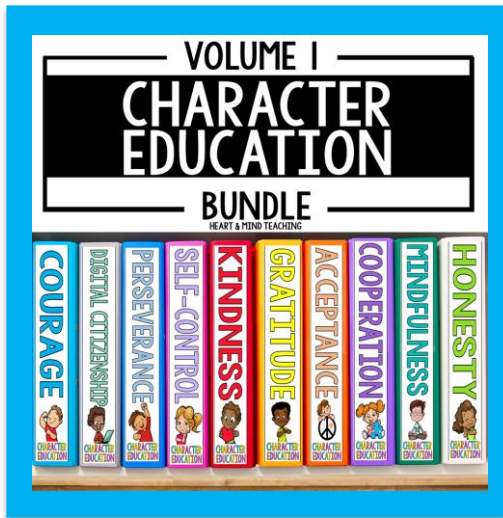
3 Truancy

What NOT to do

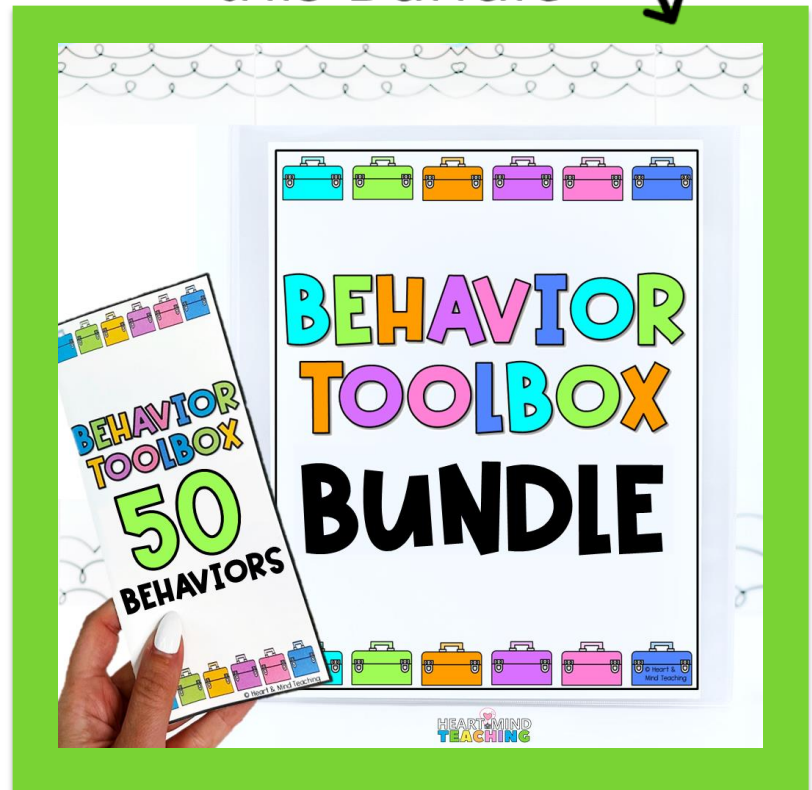
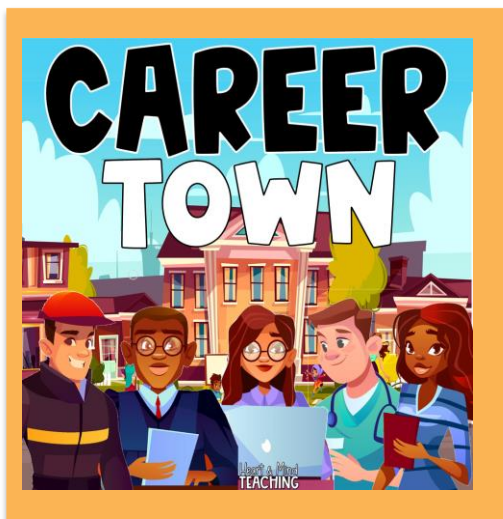
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Hi there! I'm Ashley- a School Counselor, curriculum developer, blogger, and mama to two young boys. I have a passion for creating fun and engaging resources for Counseling and Social Emotional Learning.

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