



SAMPLE LESSON PLAN

BE HERE NM CLASSROOM ACTIVITY

OBJECTIVE:

1. Students will explore and share ideas about their responsibility as a student and the importance of regular and on-time attendance in relation to school and workplace attributes.
2. Students will learn that missing as few as two days a month, for any reason, can cause a student to fall behind and get off track.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Student Attendance Pledge
- Attendance Awareness Activity Book found on BeHereNM.org
- Markers, crayons, or colored pencils

WHEN TO LAUNCH THE CAMPAIGN

State education agencies, districts and schools nationwide recognize September as National Attendance Awareness Month. It is an opportunity to educate students and families on the importance of showing up for school every day. Many students and families don't realize that missing just two days a month, for any reason, can cause a student to fall behind. The impact of the Pandemic has exacerbated those conditions for many students.

PROCEDURE

1. **Opener** – Pass out the materials. (5 minutes)
2. **Great Attendance** – Talk with students about attendance facts and share how excited and happy you are that they showed up today. Facilitate a discussion about the importance of being in class each day, on time and how that behavior carries into the workplace. Give examples appropriate for the age group. Emphasize that missing just two days a month can throw them off track. Consider discussing challenges that make it hard for them to get to school regularly, and then name things that help them get to school every day and make them want to come. Consider breaking into small groups and assigning one student to facilitate the conversation and one student to write down words or draw images that describe good attendance. (15 minutes)
3. **Group activity** – Students gather in small groups to explore and discuss the activity book. (20 minutes)
4. **Presentations** – If time allows, invite students to discuss what they thought about the activity and any other thoughts about attendance. This could also be a pair-sharing activity.
5. **Closing** – Have students take the activity book home to share with their families. Encourage them to talk with their family about discussions that happened in class.

FOLLOW UP

Consider implementing [Attendance Works](#) strategies for improving student attendance into your class.