

***BEING LATE TO SCHOOL***

***WHAT TO DO***

This is a Detention Learning Packet. It consists of three pages of text and a Response sheet that asks questions about what you did, why you did it, and what goals you must set to avoid the same problem in the future. Read the three pages and try to remember what you read. Then read the Response Sheet and write answers to the questions.

***WHAT YOU DID AND WHY IT WAS WRONG***

You are in detention because you were late to school. Have you been late before? Did you promise you would not be late in the future? If so, what happened?

Coming to school late interrupts the start of the school day. We come to school to learn, develop skills, prepare for the future, work together, and make friends. When you are late to school, it makes it hard for people to do the things for which they came to school.

Being repeatedly late to school is inconsiderate of others. It means that everybody has to wait for you before things can get started. It interferes with the rights of others to learn.

***THREE STORIES ABOUT BEING LATE TO SCHOOL***

**THE SAGA OF SLEEPY SAM**

Sam stays up late every night. He watches television after his parents have gone to sleep. He's not interested in doing his homework or reading. He just likes late night TV. Because he doesn't get enough sleep at night, Sam has trouble waking up in the morning and staying awake in school.

Sometimes he doesn't even hear the alarm clock. Sometimes he misses the school bus and has to walk or ride his bike to school.

Sam is often late and sleepy. Yesterday, he dozed off in three classes. He has no understanding of history at all, but he has watched "The Rocky Horror Show" 37 times.

## **DISORGANIZED DEBBIE DOES IT AGAIN**

Debbie never gets ready for school on time. She forgets to set her alarm clock. She doesn't think about what she is going to wear until she wakes up in the morning. She doesn't put her homework and her books in her schoolbag until she is ready to go out the door. She can never find her raincoat. She always waits until the last minute to make sure she has everything she needs. She often misses the bus, and has to get her parents to drive her to school. Debbie is often late and in a bad mood.

## **WANDERING WILLY**

Willy rides to school on his bicycle every day. He loves to explore, so he takes a different route to school each morning. One morning he rides through the park. Another morning, he rides through the woods. Another morning, he might ride through all the store parking lots on the way to school. Willy has a lot of fun riding and exploring different routes to school, but he arrives at school at a different time each morning. Nobody knows when Willy will arrive. After a while, nobody but his teacher cares whether he arrives or not.

## ***WHY PEOPLE ARE LATE TO SCHOOL***

Some people are late to school because of bad habits. Others try to find ways of avoiding going to school. Many people don't plan ahead, and are always caught in a rush to do something on time. Sam has let his interest in late-night television interfere with his sleep and with getting to school in the morning. Sam has fallen into a bad habit that gets him in trouble at school.

Debbie never plans ahead. She doesn't want to stop what she is doing long enough to be organized for the next morning. As a result, she is never ready to go to school on time. When she misses the bus, she's late to school. Instead of learning from her mistakes, she just shrugs it off and does it again. Everybody is getting tired of Debbie's disorganization. Who wants to wait for someone who's always late?

Willy likes to explore. He is more interested in exploring the countryside on his bicycle than he is in getting to school on time. He would rather spend the day riding his bike than sitting in class. Riding a bicycle is fun and is also healthy exercise. But there is a time to ride a bike and a time to be in school. Willy is like the motorcycle riders who say, "Ride to live, live to ride." But you have to work to afford the motorcycle. And you have to get an education in order to get a good job. Willy hasn't made the connection yet.

### ***WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU ARE LATE TO SCHOOL***

When you are late to school, you don't get started on time so you spend the rest of the day trying to catch up. If the teacher has delayed starting until you arrived, the whole class is late getting started. If you are late to homeroom, you may miss important announcements. If you are sent to the office, you will miss class and be even further behind in your work. Nobody benefits when you are late to school, especially you.

Being late to school is serious business. For some, it can be the first step on the road to dropping out of school: late today, absent tomorrow, gone next week. Making a habit of being late may be the first step toward throwing away your future. It's a sure way of being left behind by your classmates.

### ***WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO IN THE FUTURE***

Everybody knows that being late is bad. The important thing is to stop being late. You must try to learn why you are often late so you can get to school on time. This means identifying bad habits, being better organized, realizing how important school is to you, keeping your mind on your school work, and setting goals that you can attain. The questions in the Response sheets will help you set these goals.

**STUDENT RESPONSE PACKET # 1.1**  
*BEING LATE TO SCHOOL*

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

**GRADE** \_\_ **HOMEROOM** \_\_\_\_\_

***WHAT TO DO***

Below are some questions about what you have read. These questions will help you learn why what you did was wrong and how you can avoid such problems in the future. Your teacher, a counselor, the principal, or your parents may read your answers. Your answers will not be graded.

Write your answers in the spaces below the questions. If there is not enough room, write on the backs of these sheets. Be neat, spell correctly, use good grammar, and write in complete sentences. If you don't understand what you are supposed to do, ask your detention supervisor.

When you finish, give the Learning Packet and your Response sheets to the detention supervisor and return to your desk. The supervisor will tell you when to leave.

1. You were late again. How many times have you been late this month?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. How late were you this morning? Which class did you interrupt?

3. Why were you late this morning?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Why were you late last time?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. You've read three stories about Sam, Debbie and Willy being late. How will they have to change to stop being late?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. In what way are you like Sam, Debbie or Willy? How are you different?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. How will you have to change so you won't be late again?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. Write two goals that will help you be on time in the future.



# STUDENT RESPONSE PACKET # 1.2

## *BEING LATE TO SCHOOL*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

GRADE \_\_ HOMEROOM \_\_\_\_\_

### *WHAT TO DO*

Below are some questions about what you have read. These questions will help you learn why what you did was wrong and how you can avoid such problems in the future. Your teacher, a counselor, the principal, or your parents may read your answers. Your answers will not be graded.

Write your answers in the spaces below the questions. If there is not enough room, write on the backs of these sheets. Be neat, spell correctly, use good grammar, and write in complete sentences. If you don't understand what you are supposed to do, ask your detention supervisor.

When you finish, give the Learning Packet and your Response sheets to the detention supervisor and return to your desk. The supervisor will tell you when to leave.

1. You are late again. Why were you late this morning? What about last time? What about the time before that?
  
2. How many times have you been late this semester? If you're not sure, give an estimate.

3. You read stories about Sam, Debbie and Willy. Write two goals that will help Sam be on time.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Now write two goals that will help Debbie be on time.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Now write two goals that will help Willy be on time.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. Do you have anything in common with Sam, Debbie or Willy? If yes, what? If not, how is your problem of being late different?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. Last time, you wrote two goals for yourself. But you are late again. Why didn't you reach your goals?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. Write two more goals for yourself. Keep in mind the reasons you didn't achieve your goals last time.