



If your child is *SLIPPING* in school, get help sooner, rather than later.

Poor school performance tends to be cumulative. It can do damage to the child's self-esteem and sense of his own future. It can also lead to other problems and acting-out behaviors, especially in teens.



DETERMINE THE CAUSE

of poor school performance to help your child do better in school.

TREAT THE CAUSE

of poor school performance to help your child do better in school.



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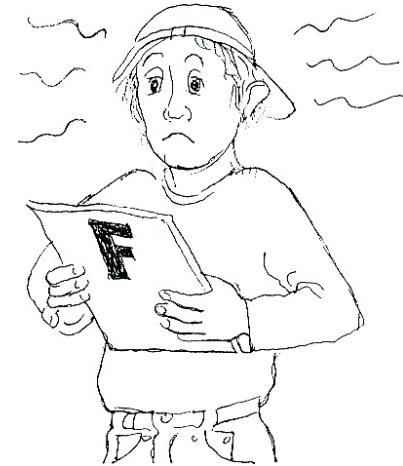
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TIPS FOR PARENTS

THE UNDER-ACHIEVER



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TYPICAL CAUSES OF POOR SCHOOL PERFORMANCE:

- ❖ **Undiagnosed learning disabilities**
- ❖ **Undiagnosed Attention Deficit Disorder.** Bright kids with ADD or ADHD may do well in elementary school, then fall apart in middle school.
- ❖ **Emotional Problems --** Depression, anxiety, adolescent adjustment issues. Emotional issues can be precipitated by the onset of adolescence.
- ❖ **Family Problems--** Divorce, family relocation, other issues.
- ❖ **Social or Peer Problems.** Some kids have great difficulty adjusting socially to a new school.
- ❖ **Homework Hassle.** Parent/child power struggles over homework can lead to poor grades, especially in adolescence.

- ❖ **Drug/Alcohol Experimentation.** Sometimes trouble with grades is the first sign parents will see.



ASSESSMENT & DIAGNOSIS

- ❖ **Test for Learning Problems.** The public school will test your child if you request it.
- ❖ **Test for Attention Deficit Disorder.** The schools do not test for this. Your pediatrician can evaluate the child. You can also turn to a psychologist or family therapist.
- ❖ **Emotional or Family Problems.** Go to a family therapist or psychologist. A psychiatrist can help with depression or anxiety.
- ❖ **Drug/Alcohol Problems.** Get your child evaluated for seriousness of the problem by a therapist or adolescent treatment center.



PROFESSIONALS WHO CAN HELP:

- ❖ Pediatricians (MD)
- ❖ Developmental Pediatrician (MD)
- ❖ Psychologist (PhD)
- ❖ Psychiatrist (MD)
- ❖ Social Worker (LCSW)
- ❖ Family Therapist (MFT)



REMEDIAL HELP:

It is important to first know why your child is having school problems and to treat the underlying causes.

In addition, if your child is behind due to an accumulation of poor school performance over time, he may need help catching up. Get him remedial help with tutors or at a learning center.

