

Study: Cutting class, even a little, has consequences

By Brian Nordli, Las Vegas Sun

A study released Tuesday found that missing even a handful of days of school can cripple student achievement in the classroom.

Researchers from Attendance Works, a national advocacy group, found that students who miss three days or more in the month before taking National Assessment for Educational Progress tests exhibited skill levels that were one or two years below their peers. The exams are widely considered the nation's report card and can provide a snapshot for each state, according to the study, titled "Absences Add Up."

The findings held true in Nevada, where 22 percent of students in fourth and eighth grade reported that they missed more than three days in the month leading up to the exam.

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