



Teaching Threads

What is "AT RISK"?

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Research has identified several factors that may place a student at risk, making it difficult to achieve academic, social, emotional, and vocational success. Some of these factors include:

- Students who are homeless
- Students whose families change residence frequently
- Students who are aggressive and/or violent students who are victims of aggression and/or violence
- Students who are pregnant and/or parents students who are depressed and/or anxious students who exhibit suicidal behaviors students dealing with death
- Students dealing with extreme stress students who do not exhibit successful social interaction skills
- Students who do not develop healthy relationships with family, friends, peers and/or adults
- Students who are alienated or ostracized students whose fathers or mothers are absent students with disabilities or developmental delays
- Students who are gifted and talented students who are adjudicated and/or incarcerated
- Students whose parents are incarcerated or engage in illegal acts
- Students with mental health disorders students living in foster homes
- Students with attending and activity disorders (self-regulation deficits)
- Students living in poverty students experiencing divorce
- Students whose families experience financial problems
- Students who are members of racial, and/or religious minority groups
- Students who are gay, bisexual, or trans-sexual students who are new to the United States
- Students who engage in anti-social behavior
- Students who are members of gangs or cults
- Students whose primary language is not English
- Students experiencing post-traumatic stress disorder
- Students whose parents have chronic illnesses or physical disabilities
- Students who use alcohol or drugs
- Students whose parents use alcohol or drugs
- Students who are victims of physical, sexual, emotional, and/or verbal abuse, neglect, or bullying
- Students who bully or abuse others
- Students who engage in unacceptable sexual behaviors
- Students who engage in self-mutilation or self-injurious behavior (cutting)
- Students with emotional or psychological problems or mental illness
- Students born exposed to substances
- Students with eating and sleeping problems
- Students with expressive and/or receptive language difficulties
- Students who at birth experienced difficulties and/or low birth weights
- Students whose family members dropped out of school
- Students who were "a very difficult baby" students who are seen as different, peculiar, eccentric, odd, etc.
- Students without medical and/or dental insurance
- Students living in high-growth states or cities
- Students living in unstable school districts
- Students with low academic skills and/or low reading skills

- Students with low self-esteem or negative self-perceptions
- Students with poor school attendance
- Students who need to earn money
- Students who feel hopeless and unable to be in control
- Students who do not feel accepted, loved, valued, or appreciated
- Students whose family culture differs from typical American culture
- Students/families who are refugees
- Students who have not experienced mastery and achievement
- Students who do not receive adequate nutrition
- Students with parents “on disability”
- Students/families whose religious practices differ from dominant American religious practices

As always, my intent in presenting these activities is to help teachers answer this question -

What can I do to make it easier for my students to learn and behave?



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