

Why Can't I Go to School?

SOCIAL STORY

To keep staff and students safe and minimize the spread of COVID-19, many schools around the world have closed their doors. For children, this abrupt disruption to routine can feel confusing and scary. Translated into six languages, this social story answers the question, “Why Can’t I Go to School?” in simple and reassuring terms.

Conscious Discipline Certified Instructor Abbi Kruse developed this resource to answer the question, “Why Can’t I Go to School?” for students at her own early learning center in Madison, Wisconsin. The story was then translated into multiple languages by students and staff in the University of Wisconsin System. This PDF includes Abbi’s social story in English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Arabic and Turkish.

For children (and adults), predictability and routine feel safe. Sudden change is often scary and leaves children feeling anxious. Anxiety is soothed with information, so it’s helpful to answer children’s questions and explain why their usual routines have changed.

However, talking to young children about COVID-19 is challenging, especially when we remain worried and uncertain ourselves. This simple social story gives you the reassuring language and age-appropriate information to help children understand why they can’t go to school right now.

What Are Social Stories?

Social stories are visual reminders typically used to teach children appropriate behavior. These behaviors can be related to procedures, like how to stay safe on the school bus or successfully follow a bedtime routine.

They can also teach social behaviors, like how to manage anxiety when a parent goes to work or how to express frustration in a healthy manner. Social stories help children make sense of their own feelings and the world around them.

How to Use Social Stories

When a child is missing a skill or struggling to navigate a situation, social stories can help. If possible, it’s especially powerful to include pictures of the child or children in action throughout the story.

Read social stories often to ensure children understand the message. Pause after each page to ask or answer questions, and even roleplay if it’s helpful.

Remember, too, that reading a story can always represent a precious moment of connection. Be present as you read the story with your child, enjoying your time together. Connection translates into increased cooperation, willingness, and impulse control. During these unprecedented times, connection with our loved ones is more valuable than ever.

To learn more about social stories, read the article [Teaching Missing Skills: The Power of Social Stories](#).

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Why Can't I Go To School?



Created by Abbi Kruse & The Playing Field, Madison, WI

Most days I go
to school.



I like to play with my friends.



My teachers love me a lot.



I can't go to school right now.



At school there are a lot of other children.



When a lot of children are together, they sometimes share their sneezes and coughs.



Sharing sneezes and coughs can make everyone sick.

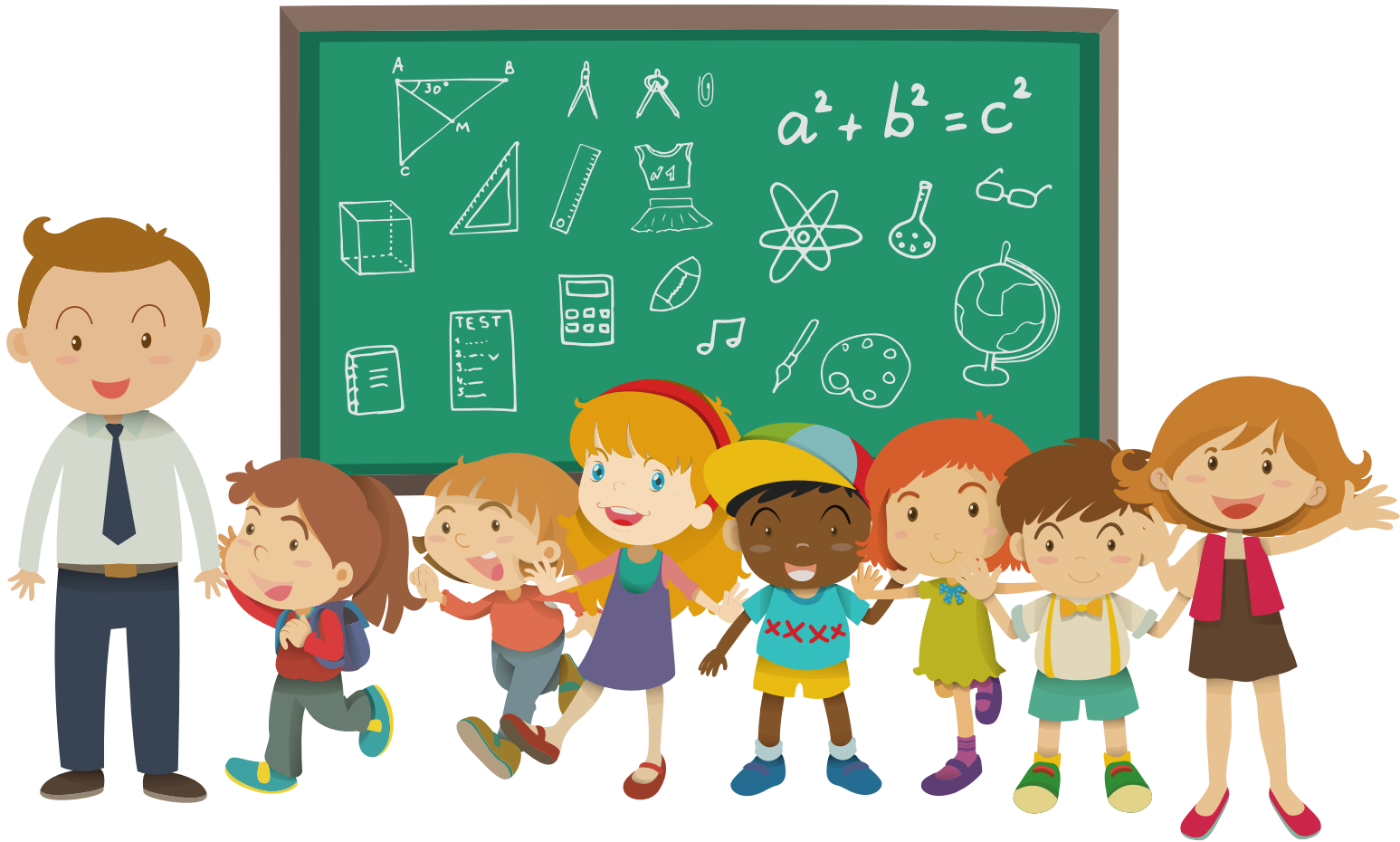


**I am staying home until all
my friends and my teachers
are healthy.**



Conscious Discipline®

**When everyone is healthy, we
can go back to school.**



My teachers love me and they are thinking of me.



¿Porque no puedo ir a la escuela?



Creado por Abbi Kruse & The Playing Field, Madison, WI

La mayoría de
los días, voy a
la escuela.



Me gusta jugar con mis amigos y amigas.



¡Mis maestras y maestros me quieren mucho también!



No puedo ir a la escuela por ahora.



En la escuela, hay muchos otros niños.



Cuando muchos niños están juntos, a veces ellos comparten sus estornudos y tosen cerca unos de otros.



Compartir estornudos y tos nos puede hacer que nos enfermemos.



**Me voy a quedar en casa hasta
que todos mis amigos y
maestras/maestros estén sanos.**



Cuando todos estén sanos, podremos regresar a la escuela.



Mis maestras/maestros me quieren mucho y están pensando en mí.



为什么我不去用去学校？



Created by Abbi Kruse & The Playing Field, Madison, WI

通常，
我每天都会去学校。



我喜欢在学校和同学玩耍。



老师们都很爱我！



可是现在,我不能去学校了.



(这是因为) 学校里总是有很多孩子.



当大家在一起时，
喷嚏和咳嗽常常会分享给别的孩子。



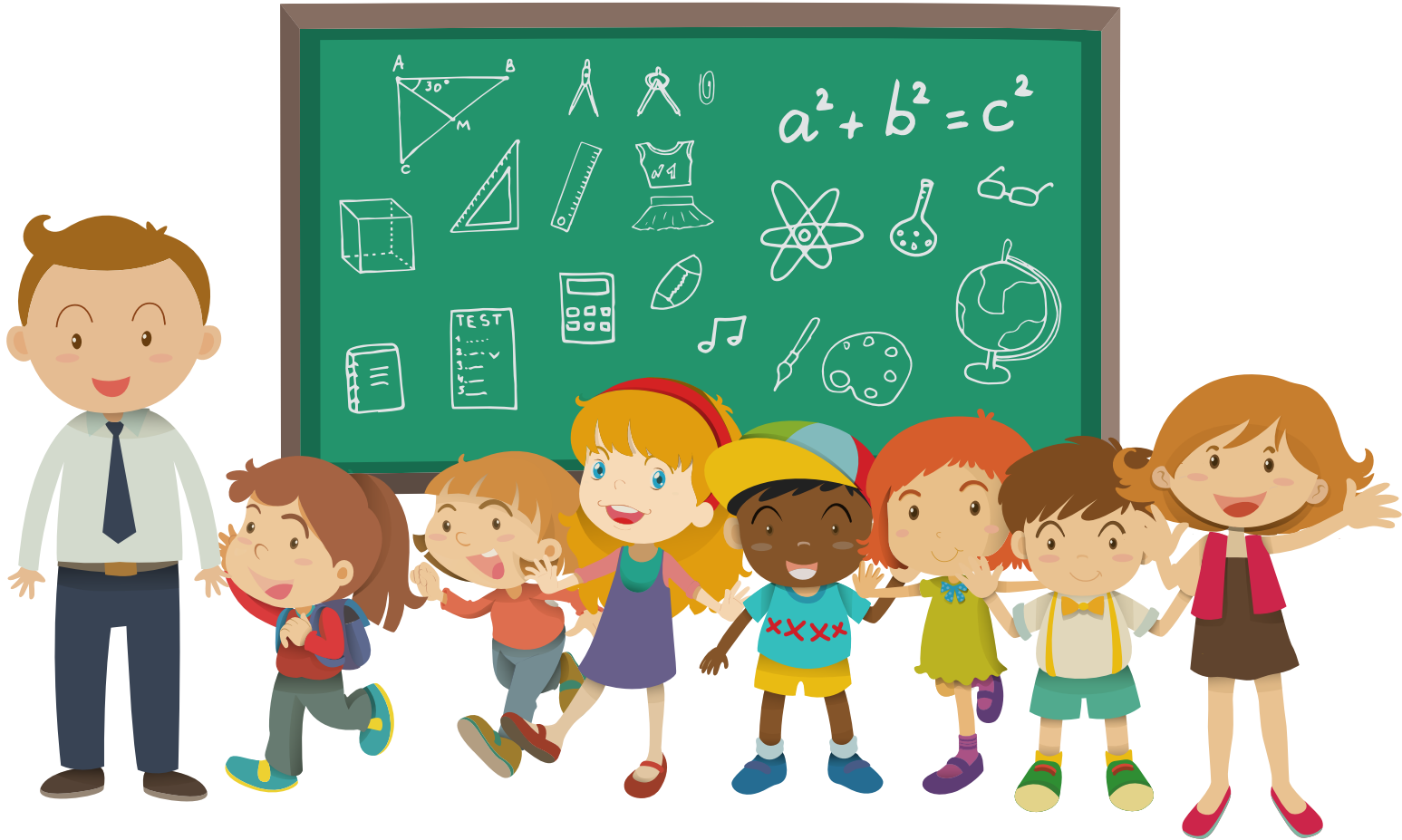
喷嚏和咳嗽会让大家都生病.



(所以)我现在呆在家里面，
直到所有的老师和孩子都健康了。



当每个人都健康了,
我们就可以回到学校了.



我知道老师们爱我并且会一直想着我。



왜 학교에 갈 수 없나요?



제작: Abbi Kruse & The Playing Field, 매디슨, 위스콘신

나는 학교에 가요.



나는 친구들과 노는 걸 좋아해요.



우리 선생님은 나를 많이 사랑해 주세요!



그런데 지금은 학교에 갈 수 없어요.



학교에는 아이들이 많아요.



많은 아이들이 함께 있으면,
가끔 서로에게 기침이나 재채기를
할 수 있어요.



다른 사람에게 기침과 재채기를
하는 건 모두를 아프게 할 수 있어요.



우리 선생님과 친구들 모두가
안전할 때까지는 집에 있을
거예요.



모두가 건강할 때,
우리는 학교로 돌아갈 수 있어요.



우리 선생님은 나를 사랑하시고,
내 생각을 하고 계세요.



Neden Okula Gidemiyorum?



Created by Abbi Kruse & The Playing Field, Madison, WI

Çoğu günler
okula giderim.



Arkadaşlarımla oynamayı severim.



Öğretmenlerim beni çok sever!



Şu an okula gidemiyorum.



Okulda bir sürü başka çocuklar var.



**Çok fazla çocuk bir arada
olduğunda, bazen hapşırdıkları ve
öksürdükleri zaman mikroplarını
paylaşırlar.**



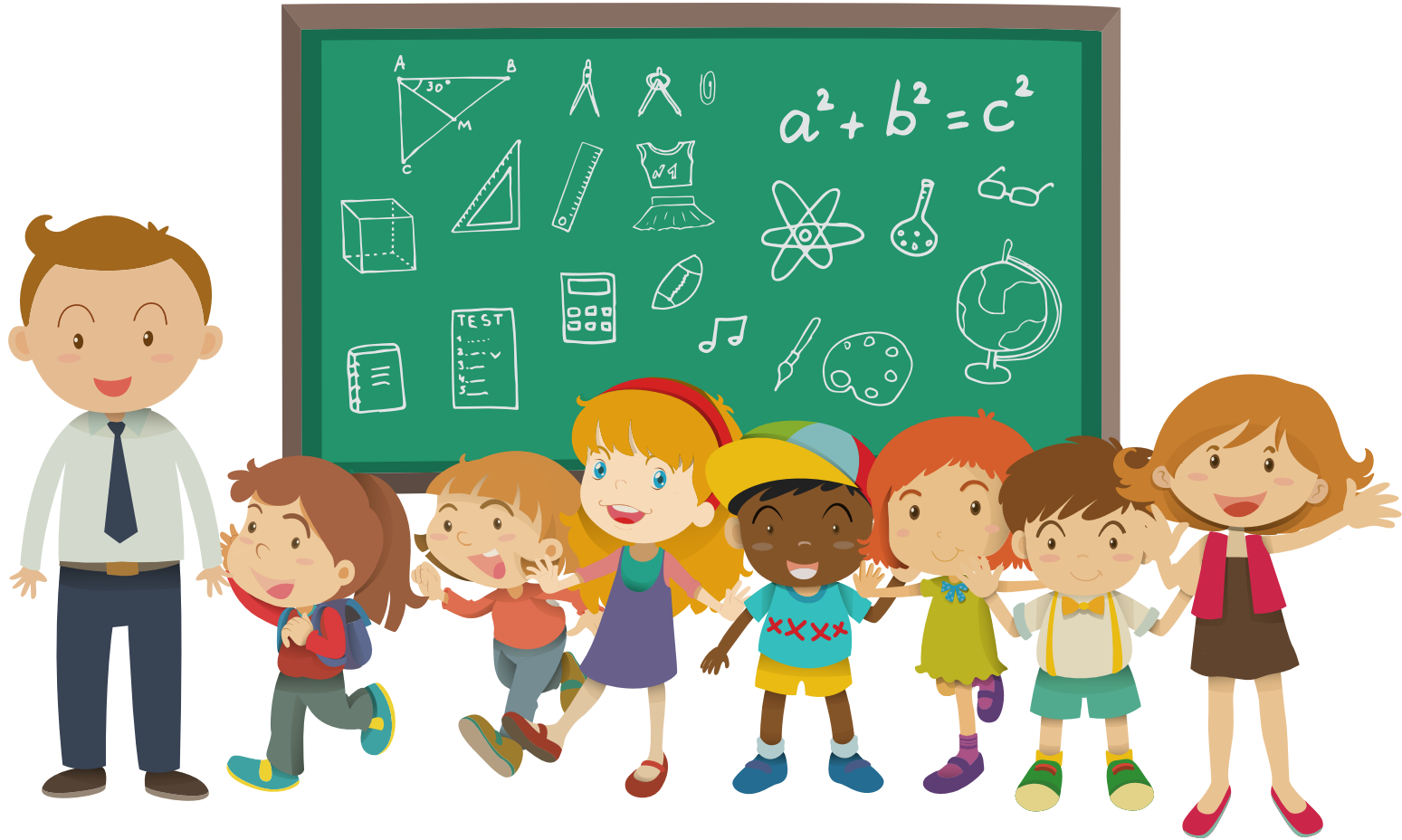
Hapşırırken ve öksürürken paylaştıkları mikroplar herkesi hasta edebilir.



Tüm arkadaşlarım ve öğretmenlerim sağlıklı olana kadar evde kalıyorum.



Herkes sağlıklı olduğunda, okula geri dönebiliriz.



Öğretmenlerim beni seviyor ve beni düşünüyorlar.

