



## Take Books, Lunch, and Notes To and From School

**W**hy it is important to take books, lunch and notes to and from school? It means that rather than depend on others to remember these necessities, children are developing these habits of responsibility themselves.

Children may be given many things to take home from school or to carry from home to school, but they often have trouble remembering to make the deliveries. Being organized is one skill that many children have difficulty acquiring but a skill that is essential to success in school.

Help children organize their belongings, ensure they have the notes from their teacher to home or from home to teacher, and complete and deliver homework back to school. *Uncle Dan's Report Card* can help by providing a big, colorful reminder note for children to "check" when they've completed the task of taking their belongings to and from school each day.

### Ways to practice this habit together:

- Provide your child with a backpack or book bag into which she can put things that need to go home or back to school.
- Establish a routine at home that requires all notes from home, completed homework, books, pencils, or anything else to be delivered to school be put in the backpack immediately before moving on to a new activity.
- Look through your child's backpack as soon as possible after she gets home from school, and praise her responsible behavior when she shows you each item delivered home from school.

