

# Story Card

## Truancy Episode 7



### Hop, Skip, and a Jump!

Let's all play Hop, Skip, and a Jump, the game show that proves truancy is never a good idea. Join our contestants as they match wits (or try to) with show host Flynn Valentine. All of our contestants are skippers, one way or another, and it shows when they try to keep up with the questions. From low self-esteem to losing your driver's license, skipping school never leads to anything good - and it certainly can lead to something bad.

Have some fun with our contestants, but pay careful attention to the facts and figures. You will hear everything you need to know about staying in school and avoiding the pitfalls of truancy. Be sure to have a Cartoonversation™ with everyone in the class, and thank you for watching Rocketoons!

Brought to you by:



#### Flynn Valentine

He hops, but he doesn't skip, and this frog knows he has some contestants who need to get with the program. He may be a little frustrated with the "talent level" on stage, but he knows a thing or two about truancy.

#### Kimberly Ogden

Being a skipper doesn't make you a bad person - it's just a bad decision. And being a schipperke who skipped rehearsal can put you in the dog house. Oh, and talking with a mouthful of slipper doesn't really help either.



#### Kyle Ray Cavanaugh

He hails from Corpus Christi, Texas. He can breathe on land. He can breathe underwater. He's a mudskipper with moxie, and all the enthusiasm in the world can't make up for the fact that Kyle Ray has no idea what's going on around him. Regular attendance would go a long way with Kyle Ray and his struggles.

#### Rebecca Evans

Sometimes skippers just skip school to sleep. The problem is, sleeping all the time makes you good at only one thing: sleeping. Trying to keep up with people who are awake and alert becomes a real problem, and even this skipper moth can't fly through the struggles brought on by truancy.



# 07

## Cartoonversation™

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## Five Websites

For more information on truancy please visit these websites:

1. [TruancyPrevention.org](http://TruancyPrevention.org)
2. [AttendanceWorks.org](http://AttendanceWorks.org)
3. [Education.com](http://Education.com)
4. [CYH.com](http://CYH.com)
5. [EducationWorld.com](http://EducationWorld.com)

## Five Cartoonversation™ Starters

1. Name three fun things that have happened at school this year.
2. What does it feel like when you fall behind on a project and need to catch up to everyone else?
3. If your classmate wanted to skip school, what would you say to them?
4. Why do you think kids skip school? List some of the reasons.
5. What could our school do to help prevent truancy?

## Five Factoids

1. When kids as young as first grade fall behind with reading or math, they are at a higher risk for low self-esteem and depression in middle school.
2. When you skip school, you also miss recess and lunch - places where many friendships are formed.
3. On average, high school dropouts cost social services more than \$200,000.00 compared to their classmates who graduate.
4. Truant 8th graders are 4.5 times more likely to experiment with drugs than their classmates who consistently come to class.
5. Truancy is known as a gateway offense that can lead to suspensions, substance abuse, teen pregnancy, and more.

