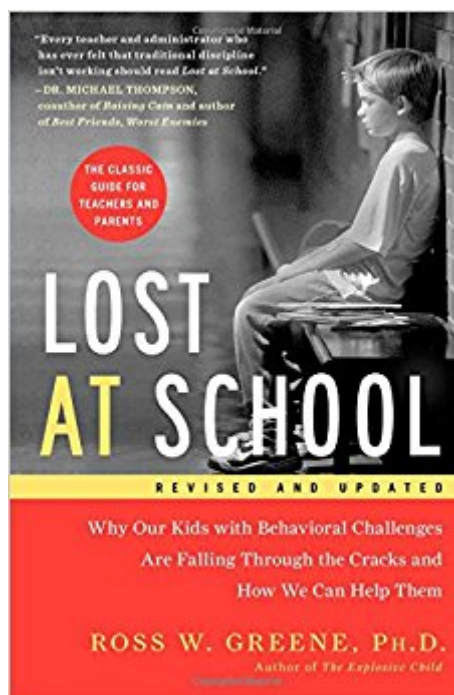




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# Lost At School: Why Our Kids With Behavioral Challenges Are Falling Through The Cracks And How We Can Help Them



## Synopsis

From the renowned authority on education and parenting, *Lost at School*—“an in-depth approach to aid parents and teachers to work together with behaviorally challenging students”—now revised and updated. School discipline is broken. Too often, the kids who need our help the most are viewed as disrespectful, out of control, and beyond help, and are often the recipients of our most ineffective, most punitive interventions. These students—and their parents, teachers, and administrators—are frustrated and desperate for answers. Dr. Ross W. Greene, author of the acclaimed book *The Explosive Child*, offers educators and parents a different framework for understanding challenging behavior. Dr. Greene’s Collaborative & Proactive Solutions (CPS) approach helps adults focus on the true factors contributing to challenging classroom behaviors, empowering educators to address these factors and create helping relationships with their most at-risk kids. This revised and updated edition of *Lost at School* contains the latest refinements to Dr. Greene’s CPS model, including enhanced methods for solving problems collaboratively, improving communication, and building relationships with kids. Dr. Greene’s lively, compelling narrative includes: Tools to identify the problems and lagging skills causing challenging behavior Explicit guidance on how to radically improve interactions with challenging kids and reduce challenging episodes along with many examples showing how it’s done Practical guidance for successful planning and collaboration among educators, parents, and kids Backed by years of experience and research and written with a powerful sense of hope and achievable change, *Lost at School* gives teachers and parents the realistic strategies and information to impact the classroom experience of every challenging kid (and their classmates).

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Psychiatrist and Harvard professor Greene follows up *The Explosive Child* with an in-depth approach to aid parents and teachers to work together with behaviorally challenging students. Greene's philosophy is driven by the recognition that "kids who haven't responded to natural consequences don't need more consequences, they need adults who are knowledgeable about how challenging kids come to be challenging." Greene's "Plan B" system, which is fully and clearly explained in the course of the book, emphasizes identifying challenging behaviors-acting out, hitting, swearing, poor performance in class-and then working with students to find actual, practical ways to avoid them. Helpfully, Greene uses a fictional school for examples, devoting several pages to illustrative anecdotes in each chapter, greatly increasing the material's accessibility. Greene's technique is not fail-proof, principally because it requires the good will and hard work of all participants; a section on implementing Plan B in the face of real disagreement or apathy would have been helpful. However, Plan B has all the qualities of accessibility, logic and compassion to make it a solid strategy for parents and educators. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Kindle Edition edition.

Zero-tolerance policies in school that take swift and harsh action against children for misbehavior are in danger of attaching labels and stigma to children with behavior problems, according to Greene, psychiatrist and author of *The Explosive Child* (1998). Greene explores the causes behind the behavior of children who are considered hard to control. He maintains that such children are not acting out of defiance but because they lack the skills to adapt their behavior to school norms. When adults take the time to teach children adaptive skills in increments, they see remarkable improvements in the behavior of these children. Drawing on his experience as a psychiatrist, Greene recounts vignettes of challenging behavior—from crying and whining to avoid tasks to manipulation to disruptive shouting or truculence. These children often have difficulty changing routine during the school day, reflecting on many thoughts at the same time, or managing emotions. Green advises making a checklist of unsolved problems and lagging skills and devising specific plans for addressing them. Accessible advice for parents and teachers concerned about children with behavior problems. --Vanessa Bush --This text refers to the Kindle Edition edition.

My team and I are using this book for our book club! Exceptional book!

This book allowed me to look at difficult students a new way, with an easy way to assess behavior and a plan to help solve difficult behaviors that even parents can understand. It gave me hope that I could actually help kids and not just "make it through the year".

I am a parent, not a teacher, but another parent told me she'd bought several copies of this book for her son's teachers because it was so helpful. I found it absorbing reading. My son has been challenging since 2nd grade (he's in 7th now). Having a diagnosis now that makes sense has helped relieve our guilt as "ineffective parents," but oh, how I wish we'd had this book years ago, as we could have avoided all those times of trying to "show him who's in charge" that never did any good. The beauty of this book is that you don't need a diagnosis to start figuring out what's causing the kid to act out and start making a difference. I think it ought to be required reading for every school administrator and child therapist. The principles are outlined and built upon by an author who clearly understands how people learn and retain information. The didactic is interspersed with "real life, names have been changed" stories of kids like ones you've probably met before. I've heard this approach referred to as "Pick your battles" - but that's not accurate because the goal here is to avoid the battles and do things a different way. If you want more info, do a search on Dr. Greene's "Basket Method" and you'll get a brief explanation, although not enough to do it justice. It is obviously not a cure-all. And my son on the autism spectrum is probably not the easiest test case. But if you are a parent or teacher with a kid that you refuse to give up on, get this book - and fast.

I love this book! I read his first book, *The Explosive Child* and found this a good companion when dealing with the school my daughter attends. I have a 9 year old daughter who is on the autism spectrum. She is high functioning but does have some language delays and can have severe emotional meltdowns when the slightest thing goes wrong. She has always had trouble expressing her feelings verbally and would always have trouble telling me what was wrong. She would sooner have a meltdown or react physically and aggressively to problems. The entire time I read this book I thought, "Wow, this is my daughter." The author, Ross Greene explains that "the kids about whom this book is written do not choose to explode any more than a child would choose to have a reading disability. These kids lack crucial skills required for handling life's challenges. There's a big difference between viewing these kids' explosions

as the result of the failure to progress developmentally and interpreting them as planned, intentional, and purposeful." He explains that a lot of the meltdowns are related to a developmental language delay, something that my daughter has. Dr. Greene also discusses how so many people view the parents of explosive kids as passive and permissive and blame them for their children's explosive behavior. Yet, many of these parents have other children who are not explosive. Dr. Greene's solution to helping explosive children takes a lot of work. It is a lifelong process. It requires understanding the child, what might cause these explosions, and working WITH the child to find solutions to helping avoid them. Detention and time-outs don't work for these children and these punishments don't address the underlying problems causing unwanted behavior. I would highly recommend this book to any parent, family member, caretaker, or teacher of an explosive child.

Using contents from this dynamic book to educate and support families whose children's behaviours are not understood

This book transformed the way I think about and respond to children with behavioral difficulties. I am thrilled about the effect it has had on the tone in my classroom and my relationships with my most difficult students.

How different the educational system would be if everyone read this book. I LOVED it and find its methods so useful, helpful, and just!

Ross Greene gets a situation that virtually nobody else even gets. This book is fabulous, except it sad it seems read by so few school people in my area. My nephew is bright, kind, and funny, but according to his school he's an extreme problem. I could buy the school a copy of the book, but they wouldn't even consider using it. Sad.

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