

My child wants to participate in the drama production but can't make the rehearsals.

No athletic coaches I know would let a child play in a game they hadn't been to practice for. Most will have to sit out and watch until they can attend practices regularly. Again, the arts have been so devalued for so long, we now think that it's "child's play"(pun intended!) to put on a production and anyone can do it. The real answer is... yes, it's a problem! The arts take work and lots and lots of practice. If we expect the children to gain a full appreciation for the arts, they need to learn early that it is not something to be trifled with, but rather it is something to take seriously and work hard for.

Many of the drama teachers in our program have instituted a policy that if children do not have their lines memorized by a certain date their parts will be given to another. Please be aware of this policy up front so that you know what you are committing to by enrolling your child in the drama elective. It takes work, time and commitment to make the programs run well and we hope you will encourage that in your children along the way.