

Learning Practices of Elementary School Children at Home



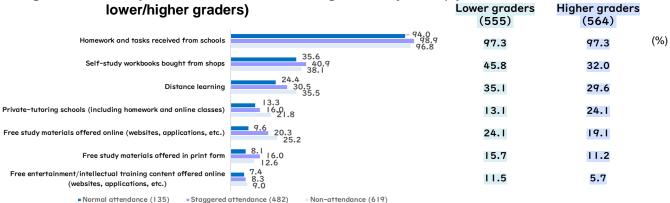
(1) Study materials and the length of study hours at home

Most children were engaged in homework activities

We asked the participants about the study materials children were using and the length of study hours at home. As for study materials, most children, regardless of their attendance status and grade, used school homework. For the question regarding school homework, 25% of children attending school normally, 50% of children attending in staggered shifts, and about 55% of children not attending school answered that their school homework (in print form) had increased. This result indicates that schools are trying to support the continuous development of children who cannot attend school. As for study materials other than school homework, the results differ depending on their attendance status. For the length of study hours at home, the overall average hours were about two hours, of which about 30 minutes were used for study using digital media.

Q: What kind of study materials (and play activities) is your child engaged in at present (when this survey is conducted)? Please choose all answers that apply.

Figure 4-1-1: Study materials children are using as of May 2020 (by attendance status and



^{*} Multiple answers allowed.

Q: How much time on average per day do you think your child spends on doing the following activities at home as of May 2020? (overall; by attendance status; by lower/higher grades)

■ Table 4-1-1: The length of study hours at home as of May 2020 (overall; by attendance status; by lower/higher grades)

	Overall (1,236)	Normal attendance (135)	Staggered attendance (482)	Non- attendance (619)	Lower graders (618)	Higher graders (618)	
Doing school homework * Homework in print form/using digital media	71.1 [9.0]	40.8 [2.7]	67.2 [6.3]	80.7 [12.4]	64.3 [7.5]	77.9 [10.4]	(mir
Working on study materials other than school homework * Homework in print form/using digital media	41.2 [12.4]	17.5 [5.4]	37.3 [11.5]	49.3 [14.6]	32.4 [8.8]	50.0 [16.0]	
Taking online classes (including schools, enrichment lessons, private-tutoring schools)	[13.0]	[3.8]	[8.4]	[18.6]	[8.3]	[17.7]	
Total average study time at home	125.3 [34.4]	62.1 [11.9]	112.9 [26.2]	148.6 [45.6]	105.0 [24.6]	145.6 [44.1]	
Usage rate of digital media in learning	48.6	28.9	44.0	56.5	43.5	53.7	(%

- * The overall number is used as a parameter (the answer "Do not study at all" is calculated as zero).
- n) all" is calculated as 2010).

 * The figures in brackets represent the length of study hours using digital media.
 - * The usage rate of digital media in learning is calculated based on any of the following answers chosen "Doing school homework (using digital media)," "Working on study materials other than school homework (using digital media)," and "Taking online classes (including schools, enrichment lessons, privatetutoring schools)."

^{*} The result of "Homework and tasks received from schools" was analyzed based on the answer "Distribution of homework and tasks" to the question regarding the response of children's schools since April 2020.

^{*} The result of "Distance learning" is a total of the results of "Distance learning (study materials in print/digital form offered by Benesse private-tutoring classes)" and "Distance learning (study materials in print/digital form offered by other private-tutoring classes)."



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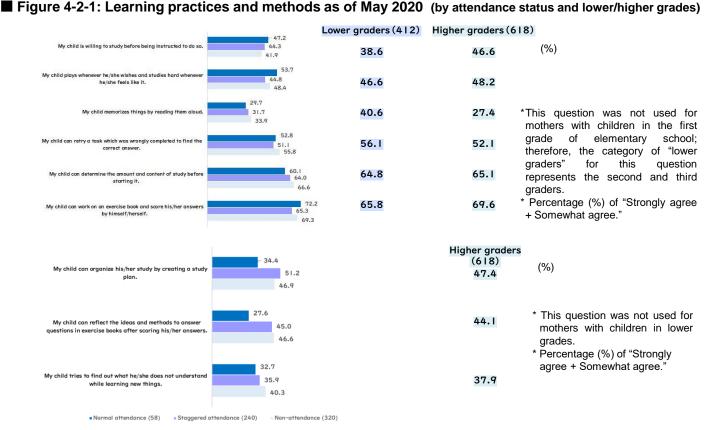


(2) Children's daily habits and learning practices at home

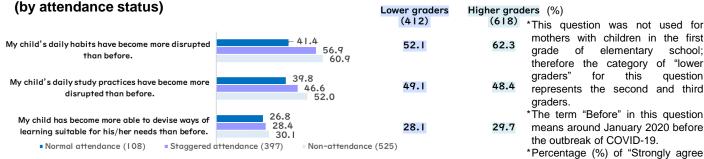
Sixty percent of children who do not attend school show disrupted daily habits

We asked the participants about children's behavior and learning practices at home. With respect to the attendance status, it is revealed that children who attend school normally show more motivation and concentration on learning than those who do not attend school. Meanwhile, children who attend school in staggered shifts and those who do not attend school show more organized learning practices, such as making study plans and seeking solutions after they receive test scores. In addition, about 50-60% of mothers with children who do not attend school answered they felt their child's daily habits and learning behaviors had been disrupted.

Q: How much do you think the following practices apply to your child's daily habits and learning at present (when this survey is conducted)?



■ Figure 4-2-2: Changes in children's daily habits and learning practices since January 2020



+ Somewhat agree."



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(3) Mothers' involvement and changes after the outbreak

Mothers with children who do not attend school are more involved in children's daily habits and learning

We asked the participants about their involvement in childrearing as of May 2020 (when this survey was conducted). For each question item, about 60-90% of mothers answered, "I often do" or "I sometimes do." This indicates that more mother-child interactions were observed during the COVID-19 pandemic. When looking at changes in mothers' involvement since January 2020 (before the outbreak of COVID-19) according to children's attendance status, more mothers living in the nonattendance areas answered "I am more involved" in all question items compared to those living in the normal attendance areas. In particular, more than 50% of mothers answered "I am more involved" in the items of "Ask my child to tidy up things," "Help my child's study," "Ask my child to study," "Score the answers my child wrote in exercise books," and "Talk about daily news with my child."

- Q: The following items are to assess your involvement in the child's daily habits and learning at present (when this survey is conducted). For each of the following, please indicate the degree to which they apply to you.
- Q: Is there any change since January 2020 (weekdays)?

I prepare well-balanced meals for my child.

I understand what my child is studying.

I help my child's study.

I ask my child to tidy up things after play-time or study-time.

I score the answers my child wrote in exercise books.

I talk about social events and news with my child.

I often interfere with my child's activities. I become emotional when scolding my child.

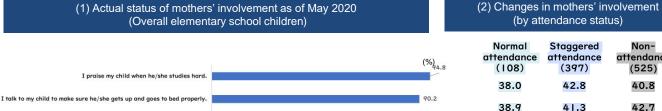
I teach my child how to make a study plan.

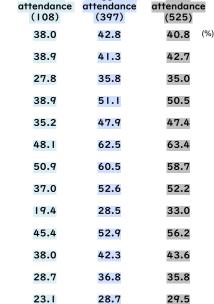
I discuss with my child how to use a TV and play games.

I create an environment where my child can concentrate on studying.

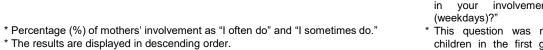
I make my child understand the meaning and importance of learning.

■ Figure 4-3-1: Actual status and changes in mothers' involvement in their child's everyday life and learning





Staggered



12

* Percentage (%) of mothers' answer "I am more involved" to the question "Do you see any changes involvement since January

34.8

45.I

30.5

45.9

24.1

29.6

This question was not used for mothers with children in the first grade of elementary school; therefore, the answers were obtained from mothers with children from second to sixth grade.