

A Long Time Ago I Went to School

A Story Template for Preschool Children Returning After Covid Pause

A Resource from the Center for Emotionally Responsive Practice at Bank Street

A long time ago I used to go to preschool every day.

**DRAWING**

Then, my school stopped. My \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_said it was so we could stay safe from Covid 19 germs.

So we stayed home for 100 days!

**DRAWING**

Now, my school is open again! There is a vaccine to keep grown ups and big kids safe from Covid 19.

My \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_says its time to go back to school !

**DRAWING**

First, I was happy! I can see my friends, and paint on the easel, and climb on the climber!

**DRAWING**

Then, I was scared. There might be Covid 19 germs still hiding in my classroom! Some kids might forget to wash their hands!

**DRAWING**

My first day back to my school, I held \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_’s hand tight! It felt just like my first day of school a long time ago! I said, “Don’t go \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!” My tears were getting my mask all wet as I walked with my teacher to the window to wave good-bye.

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**DRAWING**

I waved good-bye at the window. Then, I looked around the room. Kids! So many kids!

I ran over. “Hi”, said a little kid wearing a superhero mask. “Can you be my friend?”

I nodded “Yes”.

**DRAWING**

Then, we ran to the block area and built a cool fort with no germ hiding places!

**DRAWING**

Later, when \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ came to pick me up, I felt \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

I wonder how I’ll feel when I come back again tomorrow....?

You can use these circles to draw feeling faces for all the feeling you had when you went back to school!

Note for parents and teachers;

You can use this book as a template to address young children’s feelings about returning to school after

Covid related pause. Children can illustrate the book, or the adult using the book can illustrate it if preferred.

Fill in the blanks in a way that resonates for your child or children, or ask them how to fill it in. Feel free to change

text as needed!