# Table 10.2: A Modern-Day Rite of Passage for Children of Poverty—Preschool to Grade 5

| Essential Learning | | Essential Conditions for Learning |
|---|---|---|
| **Cognitive** | Students learn to read and read up to grade level no later than the fourth grade.<br>Students achieve grade level in mathematics, writing skills, and basic technology. | Attendance at same school for at least three years<br>Attendance at Head Start, preschool, and all-day kindergartens<br>A welcoming atmosphere of optimism, respect, and safety<br>Effective instruction, caring, supportive teachers with high expectations, and careful monitoring of students' progress<br>A variety of activities and experiences to ease the transition from home to first school experiences, including orientations, periodic sessions with families and preschoolers, home visits by teacher prior to school, and a welcoming atmosphere<br>Regular teacher collaboration regarding student progress<br>Partnership between schools and parents regarding mobility, attendance, health and nutrition, and reading<br>Regular attendance |
| **Social and Emotional** | Students learn an internal locus of control and come to believe that they can learn effectively.<br>Students find a sense of belonging in the school and classroom.<br>Students learn self-regulating behavior and develop effective relationships with other students and adults in the school.<br>Students learn or enrich a sense of self-esteem and self-worth. | |

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