

At about the age of six, at about the age of seven – כבן שש כבן שבע –

OVERVIEW

instituted that there be teachers for young children in every city, and the children would be brought to learn of the age of six or seven years old. Our תוספות explains whether it was six or seven.

כבן שש בבריא כבן שבע בכחוש:

By a healthy child he went to school when he was **about six** years old, and a **weak** child would go at **about seven** years of age

SUMMARY

Stronger children would go to school earlier than the weaker ones.

THINKING IT OVER

Why should we not say that the smarter children went at the age of six, and the others at the age of seven (regardless of their physical strength)?¹

¹ See רמ"ה אות נג