



Ways to Effectively Praise your Students

Praise is a powerful tool in education. Here are seven effective ways to implement authentic praise in your classroom.

01

Praise the Process

As an educator, you should encourage and compliment the work, actions, and steps your students put in. Consider saying, "Great job, you must have studied hard!" instead of "You are very intelligent."

02

Be Clear about your Expectations

Always be clear about what criteria you will be using to evaluate students' schoolwork. If students know your expectations from the start, they will feel less self-doubt when completing tasks. For example: Are you evaluating them on creativity, process, or outcome?

03

Give Sincere Praise

When you praise students for their hard work, always make sure to be sincere. Students will be able to see through praise when it lacks sincerity. Genuine praise will help your students develop the confidence they need to succeed.

04

Do not Compare Students to Others

"Comparison is the thief of joy," Theodore Roosevelt once said. Comparing students to others can damage their self-esteem. Encourage each student to develop their unique potential to the best of their ability.

05

Avoid Too Much Praise

Students shouldn't rely on being praised to feel successful. Avoid over-praising a struggling student as you run the risk of creating self-doubt in their minds once you stop consistently offering praise.

06

Be Precise when it comes to Praise

Be as specific as possible when praising a student. When you provide praise that details a students' efforts, they can understand what actions they've taken which have led to success.

07

Praise Students for their Effort

Students need to know that putting in the effort is the key to success; this is the essence of a growth mindset. The great inventor Thomas Edison observed: "Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration."

Bottom line

Educators and parents need to praise their students and children authentically, and there are several ways to ensure that praise goes a long way!