



Recognition Tokens

1. Notes of Praise

"What I found that works well are little notes of praise. I create a stack of positive notes each week on colored post-it notes. I make it a personal goal to award them to students. In that way, I monitor my positive attitude as well."

2. Stickers

"I put stickers on one assignment each day for effort only. If students did their best I put a big sticker on the paper. I only do this once a week and just randomly pick students in the class. Even my secondary students appreciate a good sticker."

3. The Marble Jar of Success

"I purchased 100 marbles. When students or a student is caught in the act of meeting our class goals, I move one or two marbles to the Success Jar. When all the marbles are in the Success Jar, we have a popcorn break while we read a story or a chapter in our book together or watch a video. This week, our goal relates to listening behavior."

4. Free Time

"My students love the opportunity to have some free time. The time is allotted for various activities. My mathematics students like the games cupboard in free time. They are learning mathematics skills while enjoying a reward."

5. Home and School Communication Book

"Everyone has a planner or notebook that goes home every night and back to school each morning. Parents must read each night and sign special notes. Students are asked to comment weekly on what is going well for them."

6. Tickets

"Students are rewarded randomly with tickets that they may enter in the weekly draw. Sometimes I just hand out the ticket for behavior. Sometimes, I give out the tickets with a word of praise. On Friday, one or more students 'win' and can draw out a small prize from a large box of small goodies I keep on hand. The tickets are discarded each week."

7. Funny Money

"I use funny money as an incentive. It is printed and given out for positive reasons. At the end of the month, we have a 'yard sale' of items they may buy with the money they have earned! I have prices on everything from microwave popcorn they may eat in class, sitting by a friend for a day, eating lunch with me in our room, a free homework pass, etc."

8. Two Stars and a Wish

"I have developed this concept into a concrete form that I duplicate and attach to student work or have students use to provide feedback on one another's work. 'Two Stars' promotes two positive phrases, while the 'Wish' provides a place for a goal for future work. Students enjoy receiving this feedback and recognition from me and from one another."