

# Encouragement vs. Praise

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"Those things which we call encouragement, comfort, love, respect, are drawn from the soul of man, and the more freely we give of them, the more do we renew and reinvigorate life about us." – Maria Montessori

"A child needs encouragement like a plant needs water." – Rudolf Dreikurs

## Praise vs Encouragement

Praise: I'm so proud of you!

Encouragement: I appreciate your help.

Praise: You are so smart!

Encouragement: You figured it out.

Praise: Good job!

Encouragement: You worked hard on this.

Praise: That's awesome!

Encouragement: You reached your goal.

Praise: I love it!

Encouragement: What do you think about it?

Praise: You did it just like I showed you.

Encouragement: You are very capable.

Praise: That's the best one yet!

Encouragement: Which one do you feel best about?

Praise: You're a great reader.

Encouragement: You really put in a lot of effort reading.

Praise: Amazing!

Encouragement: Thank you for your contribution.

Praise: What a great helper!

Encouragement: Thank you for your help.

Praise: That was wonderful!

Encouragement: Look how far you've come.

Praise: Let's take a picture of that and show your...

Encouragement: Tell me about your picture.

Praise: Now that's your best work.

Encouragement: You can trust your judgment.

Praise: I'm impressed.

Encouragement: You look very proud of that.

Praise: You did it exactly right.

Encouragement: You accomplished what you wanted.

# Motivational Curiosity Questions

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"The best instruction is that which uses the least words sufficient for the task." – Maria Montessori

"The educator must believe in the potential power of his pupil..." – Alfred Adler

## Telling vs Asking

Telling: Don't forget your coat.

Asking: What do you need if you don't want to be cold outside?

Telling: Put your work away.

Asking: Where can you put this work so the next person can find it?

Telling: Hurry up and get your things on...

Asking: What do you need to do so that you can join us outside?

Telling: Go put your lunch away.

Asking: Where can you put your lunch, so it won't get stepped on?

Telling: Don't argue with me.

Asking: How can you speak to each other so we can solve this problem respectfully?

Telling: We don't hit in our classroom.

Asking: What can you and your friend do to solve this problem?

Telling: Focus on your work or you won't get it done.

Asking: What is your plan for finishing your work this morning?

Telling: Use your walking feet.

Asking: How can you move in the classroom so that you are being safe?

Telling: Please sit at circle respectfully.

Asking: What would help you sit quietly and calmly at circle?

Telling: You need to say you're sorry.

Asking: How can you fix your mistake?