

## **Specific Positive Praise Cards**

Students benefit greatly from having *clear expectations* and knowing when they are meeting those expectations. Children need to hear *specifically* what they are doing *correctly*; what behaviors are increasing their learning. Vague teacher comments, such as “good job” become meaningless and ineffective. Challenge students to work hard, set goals and show them they can be successful.

This page of “Positive Specific Praise” is designed to assist teachers with changing non-specific praise to *specific praise* comments to students. Teachers can keep it close by, as needed, for ease of use during instruction. The comments are mostly generic, but teachers may choose to focus on ones that are most appropriate to the curriculum and/or the group of students. The list is by no means complete, but represents the type of specific feedback that will benefit student learning and behavior. *Vary your praise, make it sincere* and add your own comments. Let students know you are impressed by their hard work!

I can see that everyone has his or her finger on the first sound.	Let's see if we can read all the hard new words in this column with no mistakes.	_____ has her eyes on the book.
Everybody answered right when I gave the signal!	Yesterday, we had 5 errors in our story. Let's see if we can read with no more than 3 errors today.	Outstanding reading today – we only had 3 errors in the whole story!
I'm looking to see who is ready to read first today.	Excellent reading, _____. You read the whole column of words with no errors!	Thank you for remembering to come to the group quietly.
Let's try that again. I need to hear everyone reading together.	Eyes on the board. These words tricked us the first time we read the story. Let's learn them so they don't trick us this time.	I hear everyone using strong reading voices.
Let's see if everyone can earn at least 10 points today!	_____, can you read that sentence again without any mistakes?	We're going to practice words that fooled us yesterday and see if we can get them all right today.
Remember to keep your pencils down until it's time to write the word.	You didn't let me trick you. Everyone waited for my signal.	_____, _____ and _____ earn a point for being ready to read the next column of words.
_____, you are really working hard to keep your place today.	Great! You said all the sounds correctly, _____.	_____, you may read next. I can see you tracking with your finger.