BEHAVIOR-SPECIFIC PRAISE (BSP)

WHAT IS BSP?

Praise statements that explicitly describe desired behavior so that students can connect that behavior with positive consequences.

WHY USE IT?

- Creates a positive classroom culture, increasing intrinsic motivation and task-engagement.
- Increase in teachers’ BSP = decrease in off-task and disruptive behaviors.
- With proper application of BSP, students with or at risk for EBD can have on-task behavior rates similar to their non-EBD peers.
- Can be used across all levels of education, from Pre-Kindergarten to High School.
- Has been shown to be effective on ALL students, including those with Autism/Asperger’s.

HOW TO USE BSP IN THE CLASSROOM: THE 5 C’S OF BSP!

1. CATCH your student(s) engaging in the desired behavior.
2. CALL your student(s) by name.
3. CONNECT the desired behavior to the praise statement by explicitly naming it.
4. COMPLIMENT your student(s).
5. CONTINUE this as often as you can. Reflectively monitor your BSP’s. Think 4:1 ratio!
### Examples and Non-Examples:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>To Whom Are You Giving Praise?</th>
<th>Do This!</th>
<th>Not This.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual student</td>
<td>Elias, I like the way you are using your math strategies to solve that problem!</td>
<td>Good job, Elias.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groups of students</td>
<td>Table 3 is doing a good job sharing their supplies.</td>
<td>You guys are awesome.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whole Class</td>
<td>Thank you for coming in quietly and getting right to work on your morning warm-up.</td>
<td>Way to go class!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### References:


