**Mindset Practice**

**Name of strategy:** Praise the Process, Not the Person

**Short Description:** Modify your language to focus on the process instead of the person. Praise students when they work hard to accomplish a difficult task.

**Related Strategies:**

**Mindset:** growth mindset

**Practice Tags:** messaging/framing; feedback

**Subject area:** ALL

**Grade level:** K-2 3-5 6-8 9-12 postsecondary  **ANY grade**

**When to use in school year:** Any time

**When to use in class period:** Throughout

**How To:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Instead of This (Person-Praise)** | **Try this (Process-Praise)** |
| Great job! You must be smart at this. | Great job! You must have worked really hard. |
| See, you *are* good at English. You got an A on your last test. | You really studied for your English test and your improvement shows it. |
| You got it! I told you that you were smart. | I like the way you tried all kinds of strategies on that math problem until you finally got it. |
| You are such a good student! | I love the way you stayed at your desk, you kept your concentration, and you kept on working. That’s great! |

**Commentary:**

**Additional Resources:** [**http://www.mindsetkit.org/praise-the-process-not-the-person/dos-and-donts-of-praise**](http://www.mindsetkit.org/praise-the-process-not-the-person/dos-and-donts-of-praise)