

Encouraging Expected Behavior

Overview

Encouraging Expected Behavior involves developing a continuum or menu of strategies to encourage expected behavior. Positive specific performance feedback is provided using a variety of strategies and at a ratio of 4:1.

Effects

Specific Positive Feedback: a form of social reinforcement that provides information on successful behavior while reinforcing or increasing the likelihood that behavior will be repeated.

4:1 Ratio: teachers should interact with students 4 times more often when they are displaying expected behavior than unexpected behavior.

"The purpose of schoolwide recognition is to acknowledge and show appreciation to students who have provided positive demonstrations of the schoolwide behavioral expectations."

(Colvin, 2007)

Effects



Helps adults and students focus on positive social behaviors and actions.



The most powerful behavior change tool teachers have in their repertoire.



Increases the likelihood students will use the recognized behaviors and skills in the future.



Decreases unexpected behavior, and reduces the need for correction.

Importance of Teacher Praise

"Teacher praise has been supported as among one of the most empirically sound teacher competencies."

(Maag, 2001)

"As teacher praise to reprimand ratios improved, student on-task levels increased for all classrooms."

(Becker, Engelmann, & Thomas, 1975).