

Fostering a Growth Mindset in the Classroom

This list is based on Dr. Carol Dweck's work in her book *Mindset: the New Psychology of Success*. Compiled by teachers in the Florin Region (EGUSD).

The lists below show what a growth mindset would SOUND LIKE in a classroom.

Questioning:

1. Have you noticed that _____ gets easier every time you try it?
2. What made you come to this conclusion?
3. What would you do differently next time?
4. What did you learn from that experience?
5. What evidence supports that?
6. When does it start to become confusing?
7. How does it feel to get that answer?
8. How can your partner/team help you solve this?/answer that?/reason it out?
9. What can be some strategies to figure this out?
10. What additional information would help?
11. What question(s) do you have?
12. How can we attach this to something in your/our long-term memory?
13. What is your plan for practicing and/or learning?
14. Is my explanation helping, or should I try something new?
15. What are you thinking **Right Now?**
16. Do you believe you can succeed at this? Because I believe you can.
17. Do you need a break?
18. How many of you thought you would be successful when we started?
19. How did you know that your answer was right?
20. How would you explain this task to someone else? What advice would you give?

Feedback:

1. Lets' do one together, out loud.
2. I can see you really enjoyed learning _____.
3. Hey! You were working on this for awhile and you didn't quit! Awesome!
4. Your passion for this topic is quite obvious.
5. Your hard work is clearly evident in your project/essay/assignment.
6. Let's think about how to improve (the accuracy of) this section/paragraph/sentence/word choice/logic/description/problem.
7. Let me add new information to help you solve this....
8. Here are some strategies to figure this out.
9. Of course it's tough –school is here to makes our brains stronger!
10. If it were easy – they wouldn't call it learning!
11. You can do it – it's tough, but you can.
12. Here is what I was thinking when I solved it..." _____ Think aloud _____" (entire thought process – then give a new question, issue, problem).
13. Let's practice (skill) so we can move it from Temporary storage to our long-term memory.
14. We're growing dendrites here!
15. Let's write a plan for practicing and/or learning.
16. If you make _____changes, we can re-asses your score. Let's discuss a plan for you.
17. Describe your process for completing this task.
18. Hey that's a tough problem you've been working on for a while. Let's see what we can do together.
19. All that hard work paid off!
20. Make mistakes!
21. You must try, even if you make mistakes.
22. Just try – we can fix it.
23. Let me try to explain in another way
24. Let's stop here and return tomorrow with a fresher brain.
25. Mistakes are welcome here!
26. This has nothing to do with how smart you are; it has to do with how hard you are working.
27. If you do the work, you cannot escape the reward.
28. Your will is more important than your IQ.
29. I am so proud of you for not giving up.
30. You kept working until you got an answer!