Strategies for Elementary

Success Chain - explained in workshop - positive group contingency in which the class earns a paper link/letter/word towards an established goal/privilege. Many variations can be used: Principal’s link, buddy link, academic link, visitor’s link, lunch-line link, etc. Once earned, links cannot be taken away. You may also have more than one chain going at once. Ex. Inside chain & lunch line chain for in-class versus outside activities. Each day they meet their daily behavior goal, they earn one link on the chain. When the chain reaches established number of links, they earn their privilege on which they voted.

Code System - Code “0” = Zero talking, Zero movement, Eyes on speaker; Code “1” - may only talk to teacher; Code “2” - may only talk with partner; Code “3” - may only talk with group.

Correction Cards - Have laminated index cards with common verbal statements made by teacher. Please Stop., Thank you for Silence., Thank you for being on task., etc. Hand out discreetly to deal with behavior. If you want to give a positive note, write it on a post it and let students keep it. Laminated notes should be returned at the end of class.

Whisper Club - Teach students HOW to whisper. Write WHISPER on the board and erase a letter each time the class/individual student is too loud. Must have one letter left to earn privilege.

Neon Clipboard - (Disc. tracker) level on the clipboard = predetermined consequence.

Behavior Bracelets - (Individual or group) Use 3 colored stretchy key rings - remove one bracelet each time the “behavior to work on” is done (blurt out, out of seat, etc.) The # of bracelets left is the number of points earned for that period. Predetermine the goal/# of points for privilege. EX. 25 points = homework pass. Also used in place of the Velcro numbers on a board tally so students can see where they stand.

Yes Card - (use index card) K-2 should have 6 sections; 3-6 will have 9 sections. Use a 3-10 minute interval depending on how often student disrupts. Increase time interval gradually. If at the end of specified time, student has not disrupted, you initial ONE “yes.” If the student has all “yes” initialed, privilege for the CLASS is earned.

Desk Pad Barometer - Use one post-it with a stamp or 3-5 small post its. Each time infraction occurs remove a small post it. If goal is reached (has one post it left or only 2 stamps) the whole class benefits with extra points/links. If goal is not reached, a predetermined individual consequence is earned.

Behind the Line - Used when students are seated on the floor. Teacher puts a piece of tape right behind seating area. When disruption occurs, teacher says, “When you choose to be out of line, you sit behind the line.” 2-5 minute interval is appropriate.

Success Box/Bonus Box - used to reinforce positive behaviors, but also to minimize @ of rewards given. If student complies with/reaches goal he/she puts name in a drawing box. Names can be drawn by period, daily, weekly, etc to earn reward.

Courtesy Chair - used as time out - create a short courtesy questionnaire to be completed while in the chair. Make sure age appropriate.

Boomerang Book - a strategy in which the teacher communicates with parents on a daily basis. The book goes home each day and is returned each day with comments made by parents and teacher. Develop a code/check system to minimize time spent writing in the book.

Source: D.A.T.A. - Classroom Management’s Greatest Hits by Dr. Terry Alderman