



Cheer Them On!

Tips for Keeping Student Motivation High

It's a fact that the Common Core State Standards have increased the learning expectations in today's classrooms. This increased rigor, along with plenty of digital distractions, adds to the challenge of keeping students excited about school. Check out these must-try tips for keeping students motivated and eager to learn.

- 1 Hallway Marquee** Use a string of ArtSkills® Poster Lights (Item #978237) to light up a sheet of foam board; then display the board in the hallway near your classroom door. Pin or tape on the board announcements that recognize your students' academic and behavioral achievements.



- 2 Test Day Incentive** This simple call to action encourages everyone to do their best! A few days before testing day, post the class average from a recent test and challenge students to beat this average on the upcoming test. Students are encouraged to work harder on their individual scores in order to bring up the class average. When the class beats its average, everyone has a reason to celebrate. Keep a stash of Eureka Recognition Awards (Item #355770) handy for these special occasions!

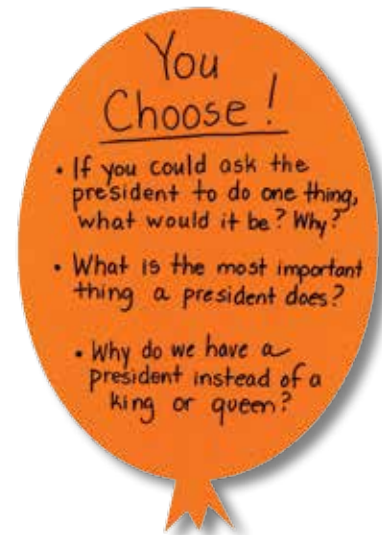
- 3 Take-a-Break Charts** A take-a-break chart can motivate a student to be on her best behavior—even when spring fever hits! Have each student write her name and the date on a Carson-Dellosa Mini Incentive Chart (Item #136550). When you see a student behaving responsibly, award her a mini-sticker for her chart. Award a student 20 minutes of free time (one minute per sticker) for a filled chart.



- 4 All Aboard!** Encourage responsible study skills, positive behaviors, and academic success when you park the Pacon® Big School Bus of Reward Stickers (Item #909558) in your classroom. This 3-D decoration holds a colorful assortment of 800 stickers. Display the school bus in a central classroom location. When a student earns a sticker from the bus, he collects a fun reward and some recognition too!

5 Terrific Tickets Here's the ticket to motivating students to turn in their homework on time. Each morning, give a raffle ticket to every student who has a completed homework assignment. Remind students to write their names on the tickets before dropping them into a designated container. On Friday, draw several tickets from the container and award each student whose ticket was selected with a small prize or special privilege. For cool prizes, try Office Depot[®] Brand Teacher Reward Pencils (Item #515659), Trend Fun Favorites Stinky Stickers (Item #678158), and Eureka Pencil Topper Stickers (Item #490583).

6 You Pick! Something as simple as inviting students to choose which of two worksheets to complete is one way to nurture their positive feelings toward school. Also try inviting students to select their homework assignments from a provided list or pick their writing topics for the week.



7 Motivation Station Keep students listening and learning with a motivation station! To make the station, cover a large table with an inexpensive tablecloth and provide a variety of school supplies such as markers, colored pencils, ink pens, notepads, rubber stamps, stamp pads, construction paper—maybe even a class tablet! Each day before dismissal, acknowledge students who fully participated in the day's learning activities and award each one with a set amount of free time at the motivation station. Keep a record of the students who earn station visits so you can personally encourage those who have yet to do so.



8 Goody Grab Bags Three's the magic number for this motivation idea. Fill three separate bags with a different selection of prizes. For example, place a variety of individually wrapped candies in one bag; inexpensive items (such as pencils, erasers, and notepads) in another bag; and homework passes and other special coupons in the remaining bag. To recognize a student's exceptional effort, invite the student to grab a goody from the bag of his choice!