

## POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

*by:*

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Reinforcement has been a vital part of the education system. It can be both positive and negative. Positive reinforcement means presenting or providing a stimulus immediately following a behavior that increases the occurrence of that behavior in the future. This basic principle suggests that a behavior will occur more frequently if it is immediately followed by the presentation of a reinforcer.

Several studies on positive reinforcement were undertaken in 1940s. One of them was carried out by B.F. Skinner, an American psychologist, who experimented with various conditioning techniques on rats. He kept track of the animals' reactions to rewards, punishment, and negative reinforcement.

Eventually, Skinner discovered that the most efficient method for changing actions into desired behaviors was through positive reinforcement. For a long time, the use of principles in the classroom has been successful. Other studies have observed too that children are more inclined to carry on rewarding behavior than to quit it when it is being penalized.

Hence, to effectively control behavior, positive reinforcement must be used in the right situations at the right times. Give them no space for doubt and be very clear about what you find appealing.

To prevent pupils from becoming insensitive, think about diversifying your positive reinforcement techniques. To keep your class engaged and interested, combine the following positive reinforcement techniques:

- Nonverbal signals (thumbs up, jazz hands, clapping)
- Verbal kudos (such as "great question," or "thank you for participating")
- Monetary rewards (bite-sized candies for class participation)
- Activity benefits (five minutes of free time for those who stay on task)
- Group benefits (end-of-the-month pizza party for no tardies)

Consequently, excellent teaching and learning are built on effective classroom management. Learners require a supportive setting where they can concentrate and develop without unwanted anxiety. This is where positive reinforcement comes in; when used properly, it may help you keep the peace in the classroom and inspire your kids to work more and behave better.

*References:*

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