

10 Good Practices to Foster A Growth Mindset Culture in Your Class

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Avoid Praising Intelligence and Sheer Effort



'You risk discouraging growth by primarily praising intelligence and sheer effort, instead of acknowledging the importance of planning and trying new approaches.'

Use Diverse Teaching Strategies



'You can use differentiated instruction tactics and principles to vary the content you present and how students process it, as well as how they demonstrate knowledge.'

Introduce Simple Gamification Elements



'Certain aspects of gamification...can highlight student progress instead of emphasizing mistakes. E.g., modify how you present marks on tests and assignments. Instead of only awarding percentages or letter grades, give scores in the form of experience points (XP).'

Teach the Values of Challenges



'Explaining the inherent benefits of overcoming obstacles can help students develop a growth mindset, according to Dweck, a Stanford University psychology professor.'

Encourage Students to Expand their Answers

'Asking students to elaborate on their thoughts during discussion reveals what they do and don't understand, encouraging them to process content at a deeper level as they reflect on their responses.'



Explain the Purposes of Abstract Skills and Concepts

Explain to students the real-world applications of a concept or skill, why it is significant, what its uses are outside of class, and how it will help them in the future.



Allow Time for Goal-Based Journaling



'Journaling serves different purposes, including encouraging students to build a growth mindset through goal setting.'

Say "Yet" More Often

'The word "yet" can change disparaging sentences into positive ones, promoting growth, according to Dweck. This linguistic trick works especially well with sentences that include "can't" or "don't," because it reverses the negative connotation.'



Help Students Change their Language

'As you shift your phrasing, you can help students change their language to push their mindsets from growth-averse to development-oriented.'



Use Success Folders



'Through the semester or year, students can struggle to remember their progress and achievements. Success folders address this problem, providing first-hand evidence of growth.'

Based (with permission) on Marcus Guido's post

<https://www.prodigygame.com/blog/growth-mindset-in-students/>