

Situation	What I said	Next time, I'll try to say
During a group activity	"I hope all of you are going to be ready for our group discussion today."	"I see lots of people getting their clipboards and pencils. That's one way to get ready for today's group discussion."
During a successful transition	Nothing	"Today you made it to the rug for dismissal in 47 seconds. That's a class record!"
During independent work time	I see lots of people checking their facts before turning in their research papers. That's what real researchers do."	The same thing or something similar
To recognize one student's efforts or achievements (best done privately to avoid embarrassing the student or engendering competition among classmates)	"You're speaking up more during discussions. I like that."	"You're speaking up more during discussions. That helps everyone know and learn from your ideas."
To recognize the efforts of the entire group	"We had a very positive and focused discussion today. What helped us do that?"	The same thing or something similar
When students help each other	"Great job helping your first grade buddies today."	"You all gave thoughtful suggestions to your first grade buddies about becoming second graders. I'm sure they found your ideas helpful."
When I'm pleased with students' behavior or achievements	"I'm so pleased with the way you all helped each other clean up today!"	"You all helped each other clean up today. That helped you finish faster and have more time for our read-aloud."