

We all enjoy working with people who acknowledge the best in us, encourage us, lift us up, and motivate us to reach higher. Our words have power. When you notice them feeling discouraged, try some of these encouraging words and phrases to lift them and help them stay on track.

### **List of Encouraging Words and Phrases**

Encouraging words can be as simple as, “Thanks for your help!” or “You really worked hard!” Here are a few more examples to try in your classroom or around your house:

Thank you for your help!  
You should be proud of yourself!  
Look at your improvement!  
Wow, you catch on fast!  
Excellent—you did so well!  
Very good! You are a quick learner!  
That’s a very good observation.  
Thank you for your cooperation.  
Hey, you got that the first time!  
You are doing great!  
That was a tough one, and you got it!  
Good for you!  
You’re getting it!  
Awesome job!  
Great job, you remembered that from yesterday!  
I can tell that you tried hard to figure that out.  
Way to go!  
Just last week you couldn’t have done that!

Thanks for your help, that made a big difference.  
I noticed you were really patient with that challenge.  
What do you think about it?  
You seem to really enjoy science.  
Your hard work paid off!  
That’s a tough one, but you’ll figure it out.  
Look how far you’ve come!  
The time you’re putting into your homework is really paying off.  
I noticed you are using really kind words today.  
You really worked it out!  
That’s what we call perseverance!  
You’ve really got the hang of it!  
I can tell you spent a lot of time thinking this through.  
I really feel like a team when we work like this!

One of the best things about using encouraging words with your children and students is look of pride you will see on their faces. After all, hearing “Your hard work is really paying off!” says you noticed their work, while, “You’re so smart,” focuses more on their performance ability. Be an encourager not a discourager, use your words wisely and watch their behavior and effort improve.