

Empowering Teacher Language

Instead of saying....	For this purpose...	You might say...
“You did a great job in class today.”	Reinforcing	“Each group was able to complete the task because you divided out the work.”
“Thank you for lining up appropriately.”	Reinforcing	“We were able to get to lunch quicker because we followed the procedure for lining up.”
“If you’d listened to directions the first time, you would know what to do.”	Reminding	“What do the directions say to do now, Jeremy?”
“How many times do I have to tell you, ‘No talking during instructions’?”	Redirecting	“It’s time to listen to my instructions.”
“Josh, it looks like you’re finished with your work. When you finish with your work, are you supposed to do things like make noises to distract other people? Do you remember what you’re supposed to do when you are finished?”	Reminding	“Josh, what can you do when you finish your work?”

