

## **Teacher Praise** **The Talk That Motivates**

Make praise pay off in motivating students. Give messages that let them know you appreciate them and want them to be motivated to learn.

### **Effective Praise....**

Identifies a specific accomplishment

Gives a specific student attention

Helps him/her understand the value  
his/her accomplishment

Helps students appreciate their progress

Recognizes old and new accomplishments

Credits effort and ability

Focuses attention on their own  
successful behavior

Helps students understand that they  
focused on their task

### **Don't Say....**

Good work.

Great work everyone

Everyone participated today

You got the answer right

You're doing almost as well as...

You were lucky today.

I'm really helping you.

I chose the right project for  
you, didn't I?

### **Do Say...**

You used great describing words in your story!

You did your math problems very accurately.

The questions you asked really helped the group.

You're working hard to solve the problem and  
understand the correct steps.

You conquered and adding & subtracting and now  
multiplication.

You are working hard to improve your spelling.  
Today you spelled more words right.

You should be proud of the way you are paying  
attention and following directions.

Your science project shows you really enjoyed  
learning about the assignment.