





Modifying Feedback

Have you ever given positive feedback to a student, only to find he/she does not respond appropriately?

Some students do not handle public, positive feedback well because

they:

- Want to maintain a "Tough Guy" image
- Don't know how to handle a compliment
- Feel embarrassed by attention
- Feel afraid to be called a "Teacher's Pet"

If necessary, modify the type of positive feedback or delivery to accommodate the student.

- Be brief and business-like. Extended periods of eye contact and praise can be uncomfortable for students.
- Switch from descriptive feedback to simply interacting (noncontingently) with the student when he/she behaves responsibly.
- Use sticky notes to provide immediate, private praise.
- Use nonverbal signals (thumbs up, wink, smile, head nod, etc.).
- Communicate your positive observations with parents or other influential adults and encourage them to share with the student.

Remember, the moment you give up on a student, he/she will give up

