

Growth Mindset Sentence Stems

Rather than praising children/students for “being smart” or completing a task quickly, try to praise effort and persistence. The sentence stems below encourage students to take on new challenges, rather than to fear failure.

- I like that you took on that challenging project!
- It will take a lot of work, but you’re going to learn a lot of great things.
- I’m really excited you are stretching yourself and working to learn hard things.
- I really admire the way you concentrated and finished that.
- That picture has so many beautiful colors. Tell me about them.
- You put so much thought into this.
- The passion you put into that gives me a real feeling of joy. How do you feel about it?
- Whoops. I guess that was too easy. I apologize for wasting your time. Let’s do something you can really learn from.
- I can see you are working hard. You must feel proud.
- I can see you put a lot of effort into that.
- I liked the effort you put in, but let’s work together some more and figure out what it is you don’t understand.
- It may take more time for you to catch on to this and be comfortable with this material, but if you keep at it like this you will.
- Everyone learns in a different way. Let’s keep trying to find the way that works for you.
- I’m proud that you’ve stuck to it and kept learning.