

7 TEACHER TIPS -



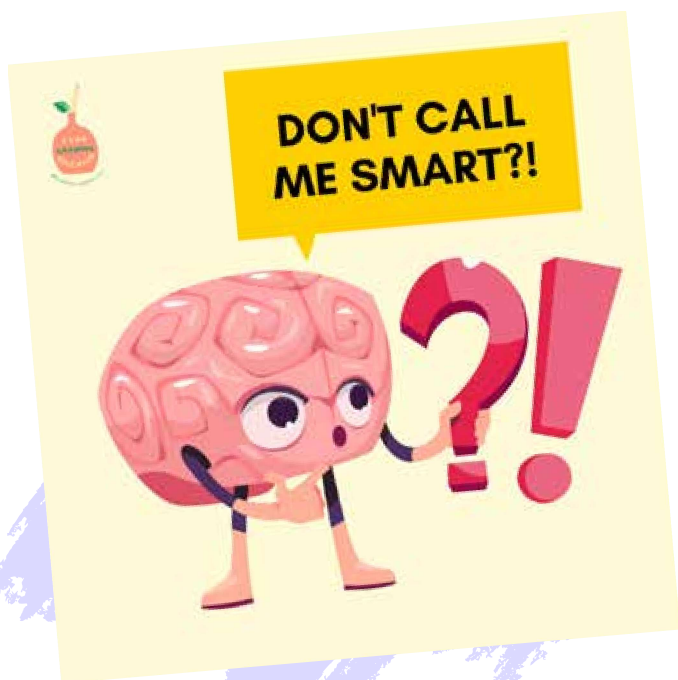
Not Just for Teachers



Mushkie Lipsker is the founder of Evergrowing Educator, which offers tips and resources to support teachers in creating a connected, engaged classroom. For practical education tips that are easy enough to use in your classroom the same day(!) follow @EverGrowingEducator on Instagram or Whatsapp 516-421-7071 to join the Whatsapp group.

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1. DON'T CALL ME SMART

Instead of telling a child: “You’re so smart!” —> Try: “I can see how hard you’ve been trying,” or, “You’re really putting in effort, and it shows.”

These comments focus on their effort and growth-- things that they’ve earned-- and not just their inborn intelligence.

You can also encourage their interests and passions by saying things like, “I love how curious you are, it’s great to ask questions.”

By focusing on what the child can control, you’re helping them build a love for learning and a growth mindset.

2. INSTEAD OF “GREAT JOB!”

□ There are so many benefits to giving children (and adults) specific praise.

□ Instead of telling a child, “Great job,” use the opportunity to praise their specific efforts and encourage a growth mindset.



3. DON'T TAKE ATTENDANCE

Don't take attendance.

Yes, you read that right.

Don't call name by name as you wait for a "here" or a "yes."



Instead, do this:

Ask each student a question as you say their name. Turn "roll call" into "connection time."



Here are 5 questions to last you through this week:

Chocolate or vanilla?

Group work or self work?

What's your dream job?

What's your favorite emoji?

If you were writing a book about yourself, what would the title be?



4. HOW TO GIVE FEEDBACK

Did you hear of the 80/20 rule? This is similar.

For every negative piece of feedback (or "no") that we need to give to a child, we need to ensure that we have five times as many positive interactions (or "yeses").

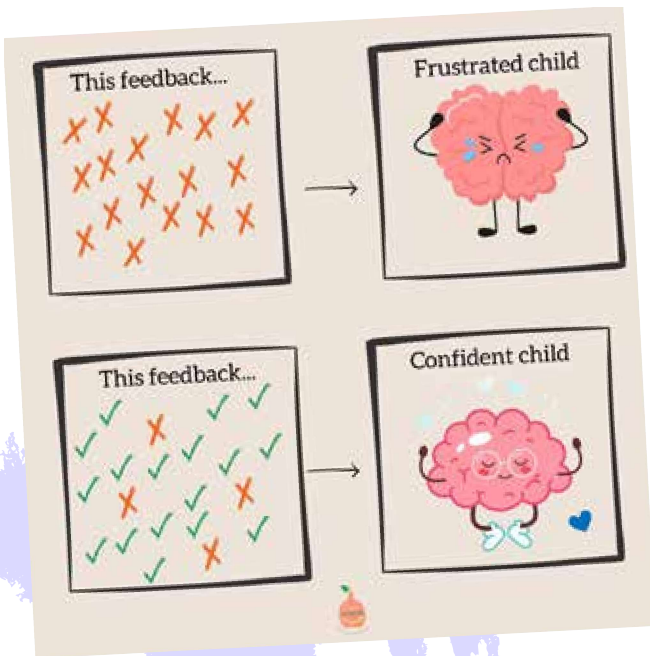


"Five to one-- gets the job done!"

Research shows that couples with five times as many positive interactions as negative have healthier relationships.

Of course, this goes for classrooms and homes too. Children with these 5:1 ratios learn better, are more engaged, and are able to accept criticism in a healthier way.

Plus, class participation increases, which brings a whole set of benefits on its own.



5. EINSTEIN'S REPORT CARD

Yes, this genius had trouble with school.

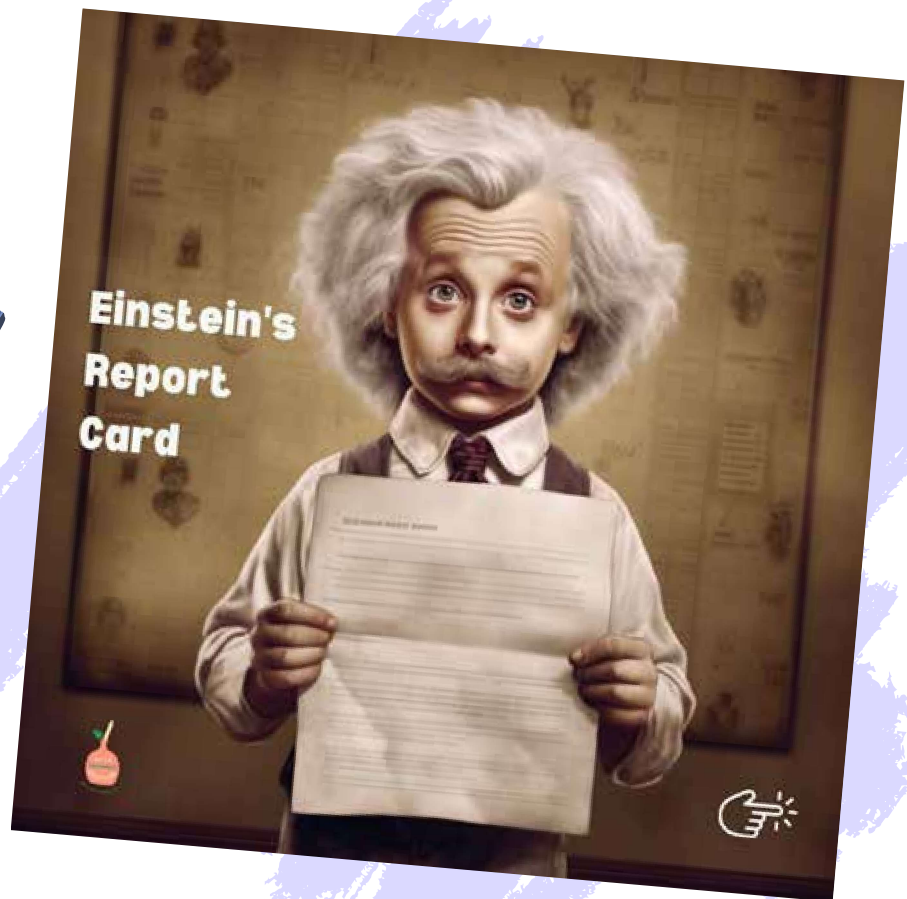
One of the greatest scientists ever, Einstein reportedly had difficulties in school, specifically with memorization and typical teaching methods.

His report card may have had comments like:


“Albert often appears disengaged during class and lacks focus.”

“Albert interrupts the lesson with many random and atypical thoughts.”

“Albert struggles to follow instructions and complete tasks within given timeframes.”



Yet his untypical thinking led to groundbreaking discoveries in physics.

 If we were rewriting his report card today, knowing what we now know about him, it would probably sound very different-- and positive. Maybe it would say this:

“Einstein shows a strong curiosity and deep interest in exploring scientific concepts. He would benefit from an environment that encourages exploration and nurtures his unique way of thinking. I am so proud to know him and can't wait to see everything he will accomplish and discover.”

Can we keep this in mind year round when a child isn't acting “typical?”

6. THE MAGIC WORD

Add this word for a magical touch! YET.

I don't understand how to translate this... YET.

I can't solve this math problem at all... YET.

I don't know how to read such a long word... YET.

I'm not good at writing script... YET.

This doesn't make sense... YET.



Adding Y.E.T. turns a statement from a “fixed mindset” of “I can't” to a growth mindset of “I just need more time.”

And let's be honest. This isn't just for kids. We can all add some more YETs to our lives, too.



7. THINGS TO TELL A CHILD

*(That Don't
Cost a Cent!).*

