



Visual Support Guide: Best Try Award

What?

The Best Work Award certificate is a visual support used to recognize children who persist during a new or difficult task. This visual support can be used to provide intentional positive feedback for sticking with a task or having a growth mindset.

Why?

- Certificates are a great way to provide intentional positive feedback to children who use new skills or behaviors.
- Giving a Best Work Award can help motivate and provide positive feedback for children who struggle with confidence in their abilities or to persist in challenging tasks.
- Use Best Work Award certificates as part of a general plan to support all children to try new things, be ok with making mistakes, or trying their best when something feels hard. You can also use them to support an individual child who needs more support to start or stay engaged in less preferred or difficult activities.

How?

- Make a Best Work Award certificate.
 - Print the certificate on heavy paper.
 - Write in the child's name and the name of the person who gives the award.
- Use a Best Work Award certificate.
 - Be aware of when a child tries to persist in a challenging task, tries a new or difficult activity, or remains flexible when they make a mistake.
 - Provide individualized support to a child who needs extra help to persist during difficult tasks. For example, teach them emotional regulation strategies to use when they feel worried or frustrated.
 - Or teach them to ask for help when needed.
 - Provide intentional positive feedback. You can say, "Your hands slipped off the monkey bars, but you took a deep breath and climbed back up" or "That shape had a lot of corners, but you went really slow when you were cutting it out."
 - Show the certificate to the child and describe what the certificate says.
 - Explain why the child is receiving the certificate, using language the child can understand. You can say, "You get a Best Work Award because you kept trying when riding the tricycle felt hard today."
 - If a child is motivated by the attention of their friends, announce the Best Work Awards during a large group time such as circle.
 - If a child is motivated by positive attention from a specific adult, let the child show their Best Work Award to that person.

- o Invite the child to take the certificate home and share with the family. You can say, "Take your award home and tell your family that you wrote your name on your picture today." Let the family know how their child earned the certificate. Write a note, send a text, or email message, or tell them in person.



Best Try Award!



Tried their best today!

Great Job!



Given by: _____

Date: _____

