

Growth Mindset Comments for Parents and Caregivers

(Grades K–2)

How educators frame comments can markedly change how parents and caregivers perceive their children. Use these comments to foster a growth mindset when communicating with parents and caregivers.

Effort/Resilience



- (student's name) works hard when he/she doesn't understand.
- (student's name) questions when he/she is faced with a challenge.
- (student's name) is working on taking a deep breath and using what he/she knows to solve a challenging problem.
- (student's name) is beginning to understand that we all make mistakes and that it is not only okay but important for learning.
- While (student's name) has not mastered the material yet, he/she has made great progress and has continued to work hard.
- (student's name) used to shy away from challenges. Now your child seeks them out.
- (student's name) is beginning to understand that explaining his/her thinking deepens his/her learning and helps others.
- (student's name) knows that if one strategy doesn't work, there are others to try.
- (student's name) knows that our brain is like a muscle, so to get strong, he/she needs to use it.

Autonomy



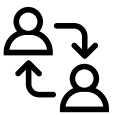
- (student's name) works on his/her own now. Your child tries a few things and works out some difficulties before he/she asks for help.
- (student's name) has developed a system for keeping his/her papers in order, which has really helped your child stay organized.
- (student's name) comes into school in the morning and is ready to learn. When he/she needs a break, he/she puts a slip of paper on my table and walks to the water fountain.

Reflection/Metacognition



- (student's name) thinks about his/her thinking and often asks, "What if...?" which helps him/her see things in new ways.
- It's still difficult for (student's name) to explain his/her thinking, but he/she is working hard at it.
- (student's name) is beginning to understand that there can be more than one way to do something and is open to trying new strategies.

Collaboration



- (student's name) listens to other people's ideas.
- (student's name) listens to others in his/her group and accepts when people have different opinions.
- (student's name) is trying to speak up more when working in groups.
- (student's name) is learning to share materials.
- (student's name) is learning to solve conflicts when working in a group by using his/her words.
- (student's name) is able to take turns.

Adapted from 100+ Growth Mindset Comments: The Right Words at the Right Time to Develop a Growth Mindset in Every Child by Rosanne Kurstedt, Ph.D.