

Motivational Activities

Fast ForWord product studies show that by maximizing the Student Success Formula, CAPS (Completion, Attendance, Participation, Sequence of Products), students reach the greatest academic gains. You'll want to encourage your students to complete the content, attend regularly, participate according to the protocol, and follow the recommended product sequence (2 products per year).

The exercises, while fun, are also hard work. Motivational activities, including rewards and prizes, may be used to encourage participants during their Fast ForWord product sessions. An effective and age-appropriate program can motivate participants to stay on task with the Fast ForWord products to achieve their learning goals. Your motivational program should address the components of CAPS.

Meaningful Rewards and Reinforcement

All Fast ForWord products are uniquely designed with several built-in positive reinforcements:

- Points are awarded for every correct response
- Fun animations are displayed as a visual reward throughout exercises
- Success Viewer displays content complete

Teachers and coaches can supplement these built-in motivators with their own reward system. By finding rewards that are meaningful to your students as both individuals and groups, you can create a fun, productive, learning environment.

Extrinsic rewards such as posters, pens, candy, and pizza parties are favorite reward items with many schools and participants. Education-related items such as an exciting paperback book, dictionaries, thesaurus, and calculators are meaningful items to many participants. Parent groups and community donations can assist with providing prizes.

Age-appropriate rewards are very important. Check with participants as to what type of reward is meaningful to them. Suggested prizes under \$10 are pencils and pens with the Fast ForWord product logo, shirts and hats with logos, paperback books, small stuffed animals, free movie passes, gift certificates to book or video stores, fast food or ice cream store gift certificates. An announcement in the newsletter or other forms of recognition from peers, parents, or teachers can mean a lot to students of any age.

Intrinsic Rewards are a popular alternative to extrinsic reward systems. Challenging participants to set goals for themselves, track their progress, review their reports and share their achievements can be part of an intrinsic reward system, and integrated into the overall school program.