Who do Positive Notes work for?

Positive (praise) notes are great for students who have or are at risk for Emotional/Behavior Disorders (EBD). Students with cognitive academic or emotional behavior deficits can also benefit from positive notes because they are a great way to reinforce positive behavior. Positive (praise) notes are also good for students who find it difficult to form and maintain relationships with teachers and/or peers. Socially withdrawn students can benefit from positive notes because they recognize and encourage that interaction amongst peers. Positive notes could also work great for students who have ADHD if they have a hard time staying focused and need the positive reinforcement that the notes provide. Positive Notes work well for these specific groups of students, but overall they can help and student in an education environment by recognizing and encouraging desired behaviors.

How to implement this strategy while teaching.

Teacher Praise Notes:
1. Express/display desired behaviors and rules of the classroom
2. Observe students, notice those who have a harder time displaying those behaviors and following those rules
3. Pay close attention to when students display desired behaviors
4. Recognize and encourage that behavior by giving out the Positive (praise) notes
5. Be consistent

Peer Praise Notes:
1. Introduce topic, discuss importance of peer relationships and praise
2. Instruct how to write and effective PPN
3. Choose designated time (such as after recess or in-class free-time) for students to write positive notes to peers
4. Collect notes and review for proper/appropriate content
5. Hand out to students and give them time to read their positive notes
6. Provide student with a place to keep all of their positive notes (such as a small pocket in their notebook)

References:
**Positive Notes**

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**What are Positive Notes?**

Positive notes, also known as praise notes, are a written form of behavior specific praise used to express when a student has displayed a desired behavior. The praise content that these notes can contain ranges anywhere from following the rules of the classroom to interacting with peers throughout the day. There are two types of positive (praise) notes. There are the Teacher Praise Notes (TPN), which come from the teacher to the student when he or she displays a behavior that the teacher approves of and wants to continue. Then there are the Peer Praise Notes (PPN), which come from a classmate to another student.

**Why/How do Positive Notes work?**

Positive (praise) notes work through positive behavior supports. The Teacher Praise Notes express a desired behavior for the student to continue instead of a generic form of praise such as “You did a good job.” The positive notes focus on what the student is doing right while providing the visual of the actual note to remind them, unlike verbal praise. The student receives the positive notes when he/she displays proper behavior, this serves as incentive to continue that good behavior even after, day after day. The Peer Praise Notes serve a similar purpose. Peer praise notes are used to encourage and recognize behaviors that a student’s classmates find desirable such as, interacting with the class or helping a classmate. The peer praise notes have shown to be effective for students who are more anti-social and have a hard time interacting with their peers.