



Classroom Capers

Press Release

Immediate Release

Teacher wins ‘Gold’ award in Classroom Capers Experiment

A Pulborough based company has run a fun, social experiment to prove the power of reward stickers in the classroom. The experiment turned the tables on the teacher by empowering the children to decide on what level of reward sticker – gold, silver or bronze - the teacher has earned.

Classroom Capers ran the experiment with Miss Duncan, a Year 5 class teacher at St Mary’s Catholic Primary School in Worthing. The children judged a range of four class activities set by the teacher, over two days and at the each activity they voted using a reward chart and sticker system, to express their enjoyment of the task.

The objective of the experiment was to see if the teacher felt motivated by the opportunity to earn a sticker and to see if they experienced the sense of pride children enjoy when receiving praise using a reward sticker.

As well as the judge and jury for the experiment, the children collated the votes, wrote feedback for the teacher on the various tasks and presented the winning Gold, ‘SuperStar’ sticker to Miss Duncan.

Miss Katrina Duncan, Year 5 teacher at St Mary's Catholic Primary School commented: "Wanting to win the gold sticker definitely inspired a sense of competitiveness in me. I think anything that makes you question what you are doing and how you do it is a necessity in this profession to help you develop. Achieving 'Gold' was fantastic - I felt extremely proud of myself and of the whole class who had embraced the tasks with enthusiasm and enjoyed the tasks enough to give a 'gold' rating. Wearing the sticker did make friends and colleagues curious and it was a pleasure explaining how I got it. I have attached it to my school badge and intend to keep it safe!"

Joanne Chandler, Managing Director of Classroom Capers commented: "We are extremely grateful to Miss Duncan and the class for taking part in this experiment. Intended as a fun task based research project, I believe we proved how such a small, low value, tangible reward given as proof of a job well done, instills a sense of pride and accomplishment, which is further reinforced when others (especially parents) ask about how it was earned. We hope this message motivates others in charge of children to recognise the power of a sticker and it will encourage them to introduce a simple reward based system into their behaviour management strategies. Well done to Miss Duncan for winning Gold!"

Daryl Power, Deputy Head of St Mary's Catholic Primary School quoted: "It was a great opportunity not only for the children, but also for Miss Duncan to receive some constructive feedback in terms of which lessons the children enjoyed the most and identifying why these lessons were most appealing. As effective practitioners, we are always looking for ways to improve and there's no more powerful voice than that of our pupils. Miss Duncan is a highly reflective Teacher and was able to embrace the 'experiment' with enthusiasm and good humour!"

ENDS

- 579 words -

Notes to Editors

Classroom Capers has many years experience in providing quality educational supplies and resources to parents, clubs, teachers and schools throughout the UK and overseas. The products that are offered are carefully chosen to be the best for encouraging progress and celebrating achievement.

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