

Praise after Success

Promotes the objective. [TRY TO SAY MORE]	Undermines the objective. [TRY NOT TO SAY]
"It doesn't matter where you are. We all can get better and grow. It takes effort, using the right strategies and asking for help"	"Overall you're really smart, but maybe you're just not a maths person"
"No-one starts knowing everything. When you learn how to do a new kind of problem, you're actually growing part of your brain!"	"Not everybody is good at maths. Just get through it"
"If you catch yourself saying "I'm not a maths person" just add the word "YET" to the end of it." "I just don't get it ... yet". Add "yet" to the end of negative self-talk.	"Well, maybe maths is not your strength"
"When you feel that this is hard that's the exact time to know you can get better. What strategy could you try now?"	"Don't worry about it. You'll do better next time."
"Try not to worry about here others are. Are you better than when you started this? Are you getting better?"	"No-one is good at everything." Or a child who says/thinks "Everyone else got this so much more easily ..."
"It's not about getting it right away;' the point is to increase what you know/can do step by step. What strategies have you tried? What do you think you can try next?"	"You would have done better had you tried harder." <i>[This is problematic because it does not emphasize that you have to switch strategies sometimes when things aren't working]</i>
"So you got a low score. It doesn't mean you can't get this. It means you have a chance to learn a lot. Where can we start?"	"Keep trying and you'll get it." <i>[This is problematic because students can feel especially 'dumb' if they try hard but still fail, when perhaps what they needed was help finding a different strategy]</i>
"You got a low score. How can you learn from this to get better?"	
"This is just what you can do right now. It is not a measure of what you can ever do."	