

Strategy Example: Using Group Contingencies

Good Behavior Game

Common Misbehaviors List the TOP 3 misbehaviors you believe to be the most common in your classroom. Leave the last rows to record behaviors that you observe but were not recorded previously.	Data Collection Record frequency (with tally marks) of each misbehavior observed during at least 3 different time periods. (20-30 minutes each)
Talking when should be working	HT HH HH HH
Playing with materials	111 111t
Arguing with peers/unkind words	111
Wandering around room (sharpening pencils, looking at others' things, etc.)	IHT II

Rank Order of Behaviors List the behaviors from above in rank order of importance for you to address and the locations or activities in which the behaviors are most likely to occur.		How to Reinforce List how you could reinforce each behavior.
Behavior	Location/Activity	Reinforcement
Talking when should be working	Independent work (especially math)	"Catch" students who are not talking
		Provide points to students/teams who are talking—reinforce those who meet a predetermined goal
Playing with materials	Independent work Group work Transitions	Provide points to students/teams who are working/using materials appropriately—reinforce those who meet a predetermined goal
Wandering around room	Independent work	"Catch" students who are seated appropriately
		Provide points to students/teams who are wandering—reinforce those who meet a predetermined goal

Once you identify possible reinforcers for your classroom, be sure to use them in combination with a reinforcement system that 1) identifies the behaviors you want to see more of; 2) teaches students the behaviors you want to see more of and plan to reinforce; 3) tells students when and how they will earn the reinforcer; and 4) consistently provides the reinforcer to students following the expected behaviors.



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Reinforcer Assessment Survey

"Reinforcer Survey"

One way to identify reinforcers is to have students complete a Reinforcer Assessment Survey that represents a wide range of options.

First, begin by identifying seven options for each category of reinforcers that you have the resources for and are comfortable using in your classroom.

Next, use the reinforcement options you listed to create a survey to distribute to the students (see below). For younger students, you may want to use pictures or verbally ask the students. Using a 0 to 2 scale, students should indicate for each item whether they **would not like it (0)**, **would kind of like it (1)**, **or would really like it (2)**. The scores for the responses are summed, and a preference percentage is calculated for each category. The category yielding the highest percentage indicates the preferred reinforcing category. The individual items can be ranked from most to least preferred and rotated to prevent students from becoming bored with the options.

After each item, check 0 if you would not like to earn it, 1 if you would kind of like it, or 2 if you would really like it. Your answers will be used to determine our class reinforcers. You do not have to complete the category total or the rank order. Your teacher will do that for you.		I would kind of like this	I would really like this
Category 1: Edibles			
1 Jolly Ranchers	0	•	0
2 Cookies	0	0	•
3 Popcorn	0	•	0
4 Chips	•	0	0
5 Ice cream	0	0	•
6 Bubble gum	•	0	0
7 Soda	•	0	0
Category 1 Total 6 ÷ 14 = 42 %	Catego	ry Rank	4
		_	
Category 2: Tangibles			
Category 2: Tangibles 1 Eraser	0	•	0
	0	O	O •
1 Eraser	_		
1 Eraser 2 School T-shirt	0	0	•
1 Eraser 2 School T-shirt 3 Comic books	OO	0	O
1 Eraser 2 School T-shirt 3 Comic books 4 Note pads	OOOO	0 0	OO
1 Eraser 2 School T-shirt 3 Comic books 4 Note pads 5 Special pencils	○○○○	0 0 0	OOO



The Classroom Check-Up Strategy Example: Using Group Contingencies Reinforcer Assessment Survey

After each item, check 0 if you would not like to earn it, 1 if you would kind of like it, or 2 if yo would really like it. Your answers will be used to determine our class reinforcers. You do not have to complete the category total or the rank order. Your teacher will do that for you.	I would not like this	I would kind of like this	I would really like this	2
Category 3: Activities				
1 Picnic outside for lunch		0	•	
2 Class party	0	0	•	
3 Computer time	0	•	0	
4 Play game (e.g., checkers, Battleship)		0	•	
5 Art/craft project	•	0	0	
6 Extra recess	0	0	•	
7 Listen to music	0	•	0	
Category 3 Total 10 ÷ 14 = 71 %	Categor	y Rank	3	
Category 4: Peer Attention				
1 Eat lunch with friend	0	0	•	
2 Play computer game with friend	0	0	•	
3 Play board game with friend	0	0	•	
4 Choose seat near friend in classroom	0	0	•	
5 Team sport (e.g., kickball)	0	•	0	
6 Work with friend		0	•	
7 Send an e-mail to a friend	0	0	•	
Category 4 Total 13 ÷ 14 = 98 %	Categor	y Rank	2	
Category 5: Teacher Attention				
1 Lunch with teacher	•	0	0	
2 Stickers	•	0	0	
3 Phone call from teacher		•	0	
4 Class monitor/assistant		•	0	
5 Help favorite teacher		•	0	
6 Note from teacher		0	0	
7 Teacher joins game (e.g., kickball)	•	0	0	
Category 5 Total 3 ÷ 14 - 21 %	Categor	v Rank	6	\neg



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Reinforcer Assessment Survey

After each item, check 0 if you would not like to earn it, 1 if you would kind of like it, or 2 if you would really like it. Your answers will be used to determine our class reinforcers. You do not have to complete the category total or the rank order. Your teacher will do that for you.

	0/		1/	2
1 6		kind	III	eall
I would not	.s.	ould kir like this		10 rs
lno,	#	Vou, like		1000 14,000 14,000
	ž	727	12	

	1. N.	IN	Ke	
Category 6: Escape				
1 Homework pass	0	0	•	
2 Early dismissal to recess	0	0	•	
3 Skip assignment	0	0	•	
4 No Uniform Day	0	0	•	
5 Choose your assignment	0	0	•	
6 Choose your homework	0	0	•	
7 Break from work to play game	0	0	•	
Category 6 Total 14 ÷ 14 = 100 %	Catego	ry Rank	(1	

Within the escape category, there is a wide range of options that can be rotated to prevent satiation of a reinforcer (doesn't work anymore).

Plan for Teaching and Implementing the Group Contingency			
Steps	How you will teach/implement		
1. Teach the behavioral expectation(s) (e.g., what will students need to do to earn the reinforcer) prior to beginning. Start out with only one behavior and add more behaviors as you see improvement in the initial behavior.	"I noticed there are a lot of people talking to each other instead of doing work during independent math work. I want to make sure you understand what independent math work time looks like." Looks like: Students sitting at their own desks with math work and a pencil, eyes on own work Sounds like: Level 0 voices "I need two volunteers who can show the class what independent math work looks like and sounds like." Have them demonstrate. Add more behaviors later once the students understand the game.		



The Classroom Check-Up Strategy Example: Using Group Contingencies Reinforcer Assessment Survey

2. Set your team goal based on the data you collected (i.e., set a reasonable goal to start).	"In order to help you remember this expectation, we are going to play a game in teams. I will put you into teams and each time someone from your team talks during independent work time, that team will have a point added to their total on this board (show board). The object of the game is for each team to have fewer than five points during independent math work, which lasts 20 minutes. Each team that meets the goal will receive a reward." (List a few from the reinforcer survey.) "I will organize students into teams that are easily assembled and remembered: rows, table groups, etc. The first person listed in each group will be today's team captain. The captain is responsible for adding points for their team when I ask them to do so. Does anyone have any questions?"
3. Implement the contingency.	"We are going to begin playing now. When I hear or see someone talking, I will ask your team captain to add a point to your team. Good luck meeting your goal!" During independent math time, I will scan the room to monitor for talking. Each time I notice this behavior, I will say, "NAME, you are talking. Red team captain, please add a point."
4. Provide the reinforcer.	At the end of the 20-minute independent math work time, I will get the attention of the class and draw it to the board. "Let's look at how the teams did on the goal today! The red team met the goal with 2 points" (continue with all teams) "I could tell there was math learning going on today because the teams were not talking and were on-task!" "When I say, but not yet, all of the teams whose members met the goal get to choose a piece of candy from the jar." I will call up each individual team to make their choices.