

General and Specific Feedback Examples

Offering feedback is one way to help a caregiver learn to use new strategies and to see the impact of the strategies on their child's ability to apply a skill. The most effective feedback occurs during or immediately following the caregiver and child's actions. General feedback encourages the caregiver and supports the caregiver-child interaction while specific feedback focuses more on developing caregiver competence in the use of strategies, increasing frequency of embedded learning and reflecting on the child's participation with the caregiver. Because the emphasis is on coaching the caregiver, the provider offers the feedback primarily to the caregiver rather than the child. When the coaching feedback from the provider addresses the child it is used to inform and support the caregiver's knowledge and skills, to connect the child and caregiver's interactions, and to celebrate the child's actions. The following examples of general and specific feedback for coaching caregivers that support embedding intervention are shared to give you ideas you can adapt.

Caregiver Feedback

General	Specific
You're a great team!	He imitated your wave using both hands.
Way to go!	You really noticed her cues when she was looking toward the cup and leaning forward ready to respond. You picked the perfect moment to ask what she wanted.
Great job!	That position by the couch really helps stabilize her so she can reach her toys.
Fantastic timing!	You're getting the hang of attending when she babbles and looks at you.
What fun!	That was just the right amount of pause for wait time!
Way to go!	You gave her enough but not too much help to roll over.
That's incredible!	He said "spoon" right after you did! You said "spoon" and then waited for him to say "spoon" back to you.
Well done!	You put those just out of reach and that gave her the chance to vocalize to ask for it.
Looks good!	You paused, and she had a turn to put one in!
Awesome!	Nice job using hand over hand with the spoon. How did it feel?

Child Feedback

General	Specific
You got it!	Look at you taking big girl steps without mom's hands!
That's awesome!	You're trying to pull up, aren't you? Show mommy how strong you are.
You're a good friend!	You gave baby brother a toy. Now you can play with your race cars together.
Yay!	You worked so hard pulling your sock on.
Good for you!	You are standing up so tall, now you can reach the book that is on the table.
A big hug for you!	I heard you say "babababa"! You must want your bottle.
You are catching on!	Listen to all those sounds! You must be telling dad it's his turn to roll the ball.
Congrats!	You got all those Cheerios to your mouth!
Thank you!	You helped mom when you scooped the dog food into the bowl.
That's the best!	Daddy helped you get your cracker. It's yummy.