

How To: Implement a token board

What does it look like?

You will present the token board prior to the beginning of work time. Review the expectations with the child. When the child meets any of the expectations, behavior specific praise will be given and a token will be delivered. When the child earns all the tokens, they will receive their reinforcer of choice for a pre-determined amount of time.

How?

1. Show the child only the reinforcer choices that are available using a choice board, written or picture list, or the actual objects/choices. Ask the child, "What do you want to work for?"
2. The child selects the icon and places it on the token board next to the phrase "I am working for:" or places the icon near where the child is working so that there is a visual reminder.
3. Review the expectations with the child. Point to the expectations as you and/ or the child says them
 - a. Tokens are received for _____ (specify the behavior expectations).
 - b. I need _____ (how many) tokens to get my choice.
 - c. When I get all my tokens I get _____ (chosen reinforcer).
4. Provide behavior specific praise to the child when delivering a token.
 - a. "I like the way you are listening, give yourself a token!"
 - b. "You're doing a fantastic job of keeping your hands and body to yourself!"
 - c. "Thank you for following your schedule, here's a token!"
5. You or the child places the token on the token board in the first open spot going from left to right. Ideally children will place their own tokens under your guidance.
6. Provide tokens more frequently:
 - a. During activities that are more difficult for the child
 - b. When learning new skills or in a new setting
 - c. When the child requires more frequent reinforcement to follow the expectations
 - d. To build behavioral momentum (to keep the student engaged and working)
7. Once the child has earned all the tokens, they should count how many tokens they have.
8. The child is given access to the reinforcer for the predetermined amount of time. Use a timer (kitchen timer, oven or microwave timer, phone timer, computer/phone app) to designate the start and end time of the reinforcer.
9. When the timer beeps, have the child stop the timer. Say "____ (reinforcer) is all done."
 - a. Have the child put away the reinforcer or put it into a basket/bin
10. Clear the token board and start back at step 1.

Tips?

- Your child's teacher can help you decide how often and when tokens should be given during periods of work.
- Respond to the child not following the expectations by pointing to and/or reviewing the expectation they need to follow in order to earn a token and model the correct action. Resume the token board exactly where you left off once the child is back on track.