



## Proactive Recognition – “Canon Moments”

### What is a Proactive Recognition?

An honoring and celebration of the rules that have **not** been broken. Proactive recognition is a deliberate statement to identify the success in what isn't happening in a situation, but could be. This type of recognition is filled with empowerment, as the child is fully given credit for the positive choices they made, even if they hadn't been deliberate in the decision. Rules are taught in this manner, through a very first-hand experience of success. Sends messages of power and control, for both the current moment and to be used in the future.

### Starter ideas for Proactive Recognitions:

“I see you not (*behavior*), even though you could be, and what that shows is that you are (*quality*).”

“You totally could have \_\_\_\_\_, and instead you \_\_\_\_\_ and that proves that you are \_\_\_\_\_.”

“You seem to be feeling (*emotion*) and you are still not \_\_\_\_\_. That shows how \_\_\_\_\_ you are.”

“I'm impressed that you \_\_\_\_\_ instead of \_\_\_\_\_. That really takes \_\_\_\_\_ to make that kind of choice!”

### Examples of Proactive Recognitions:

- Catherine, I just noticed that Sam walked past and bumped into you and you didn't get angry or shove him, but instead just stepped away. What a powerful way to handle the way you get to decide your own choices. That takes a lot of self-control and you have it!
- Steve, I know that you don't particularly like my answer to the question you just asked, but I want to honor you for the maturity that you are showing in not rolling your eyes or being argumentative.
- Jane, look at the focus that you are using on this project right now. You aren't rushing or scribbling, but instead are taking your time and showing off your amazing artistry.
- Jordon & Emma, I can see that both of you are looking at the board and focusing on this word problem. You could be doodling or daydreaming, but instead you are showing your focus and intention to learn.

## Creative Recognition

### What is a Creative Recognition?

A method of creating success that may not otherwise exist. This technique starts with a clear and doable request or an action in progress and then celebrates movement in the right direction, regardless of intention or quantity of movement. Creative recognitions “hijack” children into success, by lowering the rope and being very clear about where the rope is. Sends messages of clarity, ability, and forward motion into new successes.

### Starter ideas for Creative Recognitions:

“I need you to...” “I want you to...” “Go ahead and...” “It's time to...”

“I see you getting ready to \_\_\_\_\_.” “I see that you \_\_\_\_\_, and now I need you to \_\_\_\_\_.”

“I was going to ask you to \_\_\_\_\_, and you already did it! That shows how you are \_\_\_\_\_.”

### Examples of Creative Recognitions:

- Robert, I need you to come here. (*pause for action*) I want to honor you for looking up at me when you heard my words. I appreciate that you are moving in this direction and showing your respectfulness.
- Maya, it's time to finish the snack that you are eating so we can go. (*pause*) Look, you kept chewing which shows that you are doing exactly what I asked. I appreciate how you are a team player in getting us out the door.