

Igniting and Inspiring Unmotivated Students

Scenario of Unmotivated Students:			
Strategies to Motivate Students		Description	Strategy Use
<i>10 by 2</i>			
<i>Choice</i>			
<i>Rewards</i>			
<i>Make it Real</i>			
<i>Growth Mindset</i>			
<i>Specific Feedback</i>			
<i>Goal Setting</i>			
Scenario using strategy to motivate student:			

Efforts to build [intrinsic] motivation are also typically efforts aimed at promoting student learning.

Extrinsic rewards can have a negative impact on intrinsic motivation.

To increase student motivation, give students more control over how they show their understanding to you. Assess students in a variety of ways (tests, papers, projects, presentations, etc.).

To increase student motivation, give students options for how these assignments are weighted.

Extrinsic motivation can be effective over the short term in encouraging mechanical tasks and compliance, but tends to be destructive in advancing creative and higher-order thinking.

Educator, Daniel Pink discusses the need for baseline rewards -- the basic and fair "compensation" that we must all receive in order to have any motivation at all. In school, that might mean a caring teacher, a clean classroom, and engaging lessons.

It is not uncommon for teachers to explicitly make those kinds of real-life connections. However, research has also found that this kind of teacher-centered approach can actually be de-motivating to some students with low skills.

If your classroom is a friendly place where students feel heard and respected, they will be more eager to learn. A "good job" or "nice work" can go a long way.

To increase motivation, avoid general feedback like "good job" or "nice work."