



# Timely and Actionable Feedback

Use the following strategies to support a mistake-friendly culture and provide timely and actionable feedback.

## Failure Friday

To help create a mistake-friendly culture, expose students to examples of success stories from failures. Periodically, share video clips or stories of people who had many struggles before finding success. Examples include: Michael Jordan, Walt Disney, J.K. Rowling, Albert Einstein. Discuss the risks they took.

## PEN

Give focused, specific, and actionable feedback using the PEN strategy. Start with Positively identifying a strength. Then, be Explicit. Give specific and concrete suggestions for improvement. Finally, help the student identify the Next steps.

## My Wonderful Mistake

When students turn their mistakes into learning opportunities they become more open to new ideas and more apt to take risks. Have students record and reflect on their wonderful mistakes and what they learned from them in their journals or use as an exit slip at the end of a lesson.

## 1:1 Conferences

Individual conferencing is the most powerful form of feedback. Take 3-5 minutes to meet with a student. Start with the positive qualities of the work, followed with constructive comments. Use questions to mediate thinking such as: "What do you mean by...?", "Why do you think?", "Can you expand on that?", "Tell me more...", "How could you change this to make it clearer?" Do this as you work the room or schedule conferences on a rotating basis.

## I Tried, I Failed, I Learned

You want students to be willing to try new things and be open to new ideas. To promote this culture in your classroom, make it a habit to try something new every month. Share your efforts with students, especially any failures. Use the construct, "I tried...I failed...I learned..." to model openness to new ideas, perseverance, and a growth mindset.

## ABC

When providing feedback to your students, use the ABC construct to help guide that process. Agree with...Build upon...Challenge you to .... This is a great way to keep the feedback focused and extend learning.



To see a Timely and Actionable Feedback strategy in action, check out this Blue Apple project:

Students hold great potential for change. Yet, public policy decisions are hardly (if ever!) influenced by the creativity, interest, and experience of our smallest citizens. In this project, students will take a stand in support of a public policy issue that matters to them. They will learn about all sides of several topics like education and the environment. Through respectful discourse, they will construct and articulate well-researched positions on a topic of their choice with an inspirational podcast!



To explore this project and others, visit [BlueAppleTeacher.org](https://BlueAppleTeacher.org)