

Feedback Phrases That Build Confidence

Praise the effort and the thinking

Praise effort

- You worked hard on that.
- I like how you checked your work.
- Your effort is paying off.

Prompt thinking

- What strategy did you try?
- Tell me more about how you solved it.
- What could you try next?

Normalize mistakes

- That mistake helps us learn.
- You haven't got it yet, but you're getting closer.
- Let's look at this together.

Celebrate ideas

- That was a creative idea.
- I can see your thinking here.
- You can be proud of that.

Tip: Be specific. "I can see you checked your work" teaches more than "Good job".