

## SETTING GOALS WITH A MYSTERY REWARD

Our students have a long list of goals to reach. Every lesson. Every day. Here is a tip to help them focus on certain goals, and give them an extra motivation to accomplish them. Yeah, inner motivation is the best. But on rainy days, when your class is not anywhere near the textbook examples, then a tiny bit of outer motivation just does the trick.

### Preparations:

1. Think of a nice reward – something that your students, and *you* too, preferably, will appreciate. Watching a film, bringing candy to class, making a cake, playing games, picnic outside....anything that differs from your regular lessons will probably brighten up their day.
2. Write a sentence describing your reward on a poster which is big/small enough to be covered by at least 15 post-it notes.
3. Then, write each of your goals on a post-it note. Stick the notes on your poster, and make sure they neatly cover the sentence describing your mystery reward.

At the beginning of the school year, you might want to focus on classroom rules like these:

We help each other	We do our homework	We are on time	We bring our books	We bring our pencil case
We give positive and constructive feedback	We throw garbage in the garbage can	We greet everyone with a smile	We listen when others are talking	We use kind words
We raise our hand when we want to speak	We share good ideas	We do our best – even if it is hard work	We have a clean desk at the end of the lesson	We try a new strategy instead of giving up

Or, you can make more specific goals for English (this week/month/semester)

We have read an English book	We have proofread our texts	We have used three new linking words	We can use at least 10 new words and expressions
We can conjugate 10 irregular verbs	We use <i>who</i> , <i>which</i> and <i>that</i> correctly	We have given constructive feedback to three classmates	We always add “because” in debates
We know when to use <i>a</i> and <i>an</i>	We can use uncountable nouns	We add adverbs to create a cosy or spooky atmosphere in our stories	We are able to explain why people in Australia speak English

Whenever your students have accomplished a goal, you can remove the corresponding post-it note from your board. Every piece of paper removed will reveal a few letters of their mystery reward. It does not matter if your students at some point guess the secret. Hopefully, knowing what the carrot is, they will get the motivation they need to achieve the remaining goals. When your poster is cleared of every sticky note, you can all enjoy your prize! Happy sticking 😊