

# Reinforcement Continuum

## REINFORCEMENT

### INTRINSIC

*"How I feel about myself for earning the certificate I am awarded."*

Examples: self-praise, self-"satisfaction"

### PRAISE

*"What my teacher says, what my peers say, when I get a certificate."*

Examples: from adults, parents, teachers, staff, peers

### SOCIAL STATUS AND RECOGNITION

*"I get out of class earlier than my peers to get the certificate; I am recognized as a certificate earner."*

Examples: peers or adults

### PRIVILEGES

*"Whoever has earned a certificate gets first choice of free time activities."*

Examples: choice-making, sense of "power"

### CONTINGENT ACCESS

*"First I earn the certificate, then I can use the new computer program I want."*

Examples: Premack Principle: (If-Then, 1st \_\_, then \_\_), activities, free time

### CLOSURE

*"The certificate is earned after completing the 10 steps on my chart.  
I like finishing the chart."*

Examples: completing a set, finishing a list has compulsive features

### TANGIBLES

*"I get to choose from the tangible awards box when I get a certificate."*

Examples: money, stickers, camera, etc.

### PRIMARY — EDIBLES, PHYSIOLOGICAL RESPONSES

*"Going on stage to get the certificate is extremely exciting because of the elevator ride to the award room"*

Examples: food, natural/synthetic stimulants, repetitive behaviors, massage, pacing, rocking, nail-biting, self-stimulation