

## **Parental Attitudes About Rewards Scale**

Citation: Fabes, R.A., Fultz, J., Eisenberg, N., Plumlee, T.M., & Christopher, F.S. (1989). The effects of rewards on children's prosocial motivation: A socialization study. *Developmental Psychology*, 25, 509-515.

**PURPOSE:** To examine parental attitudes and behaviors regarding the use of rewards to influence children's behavior.

**SCORING:** Two subscales are derived: (1) Parental Attitudes and (2) Parental Behaviors. Higher scores reflect more positive attitudes about the use of rewards or more use of rewards.

**Parental Attitudes:** Mean of Items 1 to 10 (reversed scoring for Items 1,2,6,10)

**Parental Behavior:** Mean of Items 11 to 15.

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ID \_\_\_\_\_

### Parent Attitude/Behavior Survey

We are interested in learning more about how parents motivate their children. Please read each statement carefully and respond appropriately for you. There are no "right" or "wrong" answers.

Throughout their survey, the term "reward" refers to a tangible, physical object which is attractive and desirable to children (i.e., a toy or cookie). Please keep this definition in mind when responding to the statements.

**PART 1.** These items concern your feelings about rewards and motivation. For each item, circle the number that best reflects the degree to which you agree or disagree with that item.

**RATING SCALE:** If you Strongly Disagree with the statement, Circle 1  
If you Disagree, Circle 2  
If you are Undecided or Uncertain, Circle 3  
If you Agree, Circle 4  
If you Strongly Agree, Circle 5

1. The benefits of using rewards to motivate children have been exaggerated. 1 2 3 4 5
2. The use of rewards to motivate children makes them stop working when rewards are no longer available. 1 2 3 4 5
3. The use of rewards to motivate children can strengthen children's moral development. 1 2 3 4 5
4. The use of rewards to motivate children can advance children's learning to a higher level. 1 2 3 4 5
5. The use of rewards to motivate children can help produce desired behavior in children. 1 2 3 4 5
6. The use of rewards to motivate children can be considered a type of bribery. 1 2 3 4 5
7. Most behavior is learned. 1 2 3 4 5
8. The use of rewards to motivate children can provide a quick and effective way to get a child to do what you want them to do 1 2 3 4 5
9. The use of rewards to motivate children can help create positive relationships between parents and children. 1 2 3 4 5
10. When children become accustomed to receiving a reward for doing something, they become more interested in getting the reward than in the behavior which leads to the reward. 1 2 3 4 5

**Part 2.** These items concern the ways that parents interact with their children. Before you begin, bear in mind that the child referred to in these items is the child who is participating in this study. Based upon your interactions with this child, indicate the extent to which the statement describes your tendencies.

**RATING SCALE:** If you Strongly Disagree with the statement, Circle 1  
If you Disagree, Circle 2  
If you are Undecided or Uncertain, Circle 3  
If you Agree, Circle 4  
If you Strongly Agree, Circle 5

TO WHAT EXTENT DO YOU . . .

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 11. give you child a reward for behaving properly?  | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 12. give your child a reward for getting good marks or grades in school?                                | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 13. provide your child with an allowance for doing chores around the house?                             | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 14. provide your child with a reward for doing something he or she does<br>NOT particularly like to do? | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 15. provide your child with a reward for doing something he or she particularly likes to do?            | 1 2 3 4 5 |