

83 Free or Inexpensive Rewards for Individual Students

Elementary Level

1. Assist the custodian
2. Be a helper in another classroom
3. Be featured on a photo recognition board
4. Be recognized during announcements
5. Be the first one in the lunch line
6. Be the leader of a class game
7. Be the line leader or the caboose
8. Be the teacher's helper for the day
9. Choose a book for the teacher to read aloud to the class
10. Choose any class job for the week
11. Choose music for the class to hear
12. Choose the game during physical education
13. Choose which homework problem the teacher will give the answer to for a freebie
14. Dance to favorite music in the classroom
15. Design a class/school bulletin board
16. Design and make a bulletin board
17. Do half of an assignment
18. Draw on the chalkboard
19. Earn a free pass to a school event or game
20. Earn a gift certificate to the school store or book fair
21. Earn a pass to the zoo, aquarium, or museum
22. Earn a trophy, plaque, ribbon or certificate
23. Earn an item such as a Frisbee, hula hoop, jump rope, paddleball or sidewalk chalk, which promote physical activity
24. Earn extra computer time
25. Earn extra credit
26. Earn play money to be used for privileges
27. Earn points for good behavior to “buy” unique rewards (e.g. Autographed items with special meaning or lunch with the teacher)
28. Earn the privilege of emailing a parent at work telling of accomplishments
29. Eat lunch outdoors with the class
30. Eat lunch with a teacher or principal
31. Eat lunch with an invited adult (grandparent, aunt, uncle)
32. Eat with a friend in the classroom (with the teacher)
33. Enjoy a positive visit with the principal
34. Enjoy class outdoors for the whole class
35. Enter a drawing for donated prizes among students who meet certain grade standards
36. Get “free choice” time at the end of the day
37. Get a “no homework” pass
38. Get a drink from the cold water fountain (There is always one fountain that is better)
39. Get a flash cards set printed from a computer
40. Get a video store or movie theatre coupon
41. Get extra art time
42. Go on a walking field trip (earn privilege for whole class)
43. Go to the library to select a book to read
44. Have a free serving of milk
45. Have a teacher read a special book to the entire class

46. Have an extra recess
47. Have teacher share a special skill (e.g. Sing)
48. Have the teacher make a positive phone call home
49. Help in a lower level class
50. Keep a stuffed animal at desk
51. Listen to music while working
52. Listen with a headset to a book on audiotape
53. Make deliveries to the office
54. Operate the remote for a powerpoint lesson
55. Pick a game at recess that everyone plays including the teacher
56. Play a computer game
57. Play a favorite game or puzzle
58. Read a book to the class
59. Read morning announcements
60. Read outdoors
61. Read to a younger class
62. Receive a "mystery pack" (gift-wrapped items such as a notepad, folder, puzzle, sports cards, etc.)
63. Receive a 5-minute chat break at the end of the class or at the end of the day
64. Receive a note of recognition from the teacher or principal
65. Receive a plant, seeds and a pot for growing
66. Receive art supplies, coloring books, glitter, bookmarks, rulers, stencils, stamps, pens, pencils, erasers and other school supplies
67. Receive verbal praise
68. Select a paper back book to take home to read from the teacher's personal library
69. Sit at the teacher's desk for the day or a set amount of time
70. Sit next to the teacher during story time
71. Sit with a friend at lunch, assembly, etc.
72. Take a free homework pass
73. Take a trip to the treasure box (non-food items such as water bottles, stickers, key chains, temporary tattoos, yo-yo's, bubbles, spider rings, charms and pencil toppers)
74. Take care of the class animal
75. Take home a class game for a night
76. Teach the class a favorite game
77. Teach the class a math lesson
78. Use colored chalk
79. Use the teacher's chair
80. Walk with a teacher during lunch
81. Watch a video instead of recess
82. Work as the Principal apprentice for 20 minutes
83. Work in the lunchroom

35 Free or Inexpensive Rewards for Individual Students

Secondary Level

1. Adult volunteers to write a job recommendation for the student
2. Choosing to do a PowerPoint for the class on a particular subject of interest
3. Choosing what assignment the class does for homework
4. Dress as the school mascot during a game
5. Eating lunch with a preferred adult
6. Free entrance to a dance
7. Free entrance to a football, basketball, etc. game
8. Free library pass to research a topic of interest
9. Getting to scoop food at the cafeteria for a lunch period (social opportunity)
10. Getting to shoot a video about the school's expectations to show on CC TV
11. Hall pass to leave class 5 minutes early and go by the coldest water fountain
12. Let student make a bulletin board in the front hall highlighting an event of choice
13. Make the morning announcements
14. Office aid for a period
15. Opportunity to be part of a brainstorming adult team at the school
16. Opportunity to eat lunch outdoors at a special table
17. Opportunity to eat lunch with a parent or grandparent at a special table
18. Opportunity to shadow business owner for a day- credit for writing about the experience
19. Opportunity to shadow the principal for an hour or the day
20. Opportunity to take care of lab animals in Science class
21. Opportunity to wear jeans instead of school uniform for a day
22. Principal grills hotdogs for students who have 0 tardies in the month & this student helps
23. Privilege of leaving book in class overnight instead of having to lug to locker
24. Privilege of seeing embarrassing photo of you that no one else sees (Senior Portrait)
25. Reserved seating at a school play for student and five friends
26. Send home a postcard about positive things the student has done this week
27. Serve as a student ambassador if visitors come to the school
28. Sit at score table in basketball game
29. Sit in score box at a football game
30. Sitting in the teacher's chair for the period
31. Special parking preference for a day
32. Special recognition at any school event- Guest DJ one song at dance etc.
33. Special seating at lunch table with friends
34. Student gets to pick which problem the teacher will make a freebie answer on homework
35. Student plans spirit week activity for one of the days (hat day, sunglasses etc.)

35 Free or Inexpensive Rewards for Adults in the Building

1. Adult gets to pick what the topic for a faculty meeting is going to be
2. Adult gets to rent the principal's chair for the day
3. At Family Math Night all the adults are highlighted in a video montage
4. Bulletin board highlighting staff of the day showing treasures provided by their family (surprise) If you have about 90 staff members one every other day would work
5. Dim the lights in the staff lounge and get a volunteer masseuse to come provide 5 minute neck rubs during planning periods- Play restful music
6. Donut day- These donuts are in honor of Peggy's contribution to the PTO
7. During morning announcements highlight something that an adult in the building did and tell why
8. Duty free lunch period
9. Find a beauty school and get someone to volunteer to come in and do 5 minute manicures
10. Flowers on the desk from someone's garden (with permission)
11. Get a donation of a shopping cart to keep at the school for adults bringing in huge loads of supplies
12. Golden plunger award from custodian for classroom that was the cleanest
13. Golden spatula award from cafeteria staff for most polite class of the week
14. GOOSE- Get Out Of School Early- No staying for the 30 after
15. Have the principal make up a rap song about being cool in school and perform it on the CCTV for the school- Staff of the Day get to be background dancers
16. Limo ride to school and home for staff of the day- This sounds weird but funeral parlors will sometimes provide this service for free if they aren't using the cars that day- Don't Tell rule applies
17. Mini-fridge for a week in the adults' office area filled with his or her favorite drink
18. Once a month host an ice cream social with a "sister"- "brother" school. Alternate schools each month and let teachers tour getting ideas from each other on lesson plans, bulletin boards, etc. I Spy something great I'd like to duplicate
19. Permission to leave the building at lunch time for lunch off campus
20. Plan a big faculty meeting or inservice at someone's house – with a pool and a grill instead of sitting on the little dot seats in the cafeteria
21. Principal and staff member trade jobs for a day
22. Postcard sent home detailing something admired in the adult
23. Preferred parking space
24. Principal institutes a pineapple upside down day- Everyone comes in and is assigned a different job for half a day- Everyone has to have their job description or lesson plans written down step by step
25. Principal kidnaps a class after PE or recess and take them somewhere else. Send a messenger to the teacher telling him or her to put their feet up for 20 minutes. Teach a lesson to the class on something of interest to you- American History- Art etc.
26. Principal leaves love notes on adults' desks – not the 6:00 news kind- the kudos kind
27. Principal takes over morning or afternoon duty for an adult in the building
28. Principal writes lesson plans for teacher for one period
29. PTO designs 4 strokes for every poke lanyard for all adults in the building
30. PTO takes turns baking a casserole once a week for an adult "gotcha" receiver
31. Scrape ice off windshield of Staff of the Day's car
32. Sneak into the school over the weekend and write a note on each classroom white board telling them to "Have a Great Week"
33. Special table outdoors for teachers to enjoy sunshine during lunch
34. Surprise an adult in the building by letting two or three students wash their car- be careful on this one though- There are also services that come on sight and wash cars for a fee- possibly PTO could sponsor
35. Valet parking for a day