Celebrating School-Age Children

We all learn from positive interactions and like to get encouragement about our work. Children and youth like to be noticed, recognized, and encouraged, too. Here are some sample phrases you can use to celebrate and encourage a school-age child:

- I am so glad to see you.
- Tasha, you are working so hard on that (puzzle, woodworking project, knitting, etc.).
- Jamal, I can see that you are really interested in that book from school. Should we try to get a copy for our program’s library?
- Adrienne and Jackie, you two really made a difference when you helped the younger kids clean up.
- I bet you are really proud of your team!
- I am so glad you helped me carry that heavy basket.
- You all look so excited to try the new basketball hoop!
- I noticed you held the door for Mr. Cooper. Thank you.
- Tell me about how you figured this problem out.
- That was really challenging, and you stuck with it.
- Can I take a picture of you with the project you made?
- Let’s save this to show your parents.

In the space below, record some of the phrases you use to encourage the school-age children you work with: