



## **PIVOTAL EDUCATION**

BEHAVIOUR, SAFEGUARDING, TEACHING & LEARNING

### **Clever come-backs for reluctant learners**

Contributed anonymously by a *Taking Care of Behaviour Online* course delegate

#### **Challenge negative comments:**

*S: "I hate Maths!"*

*T: "I can't make you like Maths; I can help you to understand it better."*

*S: "I can't do it!"*

*T: "What you meant to say was "I can't do it yet" If you could do it already, you wouldn't need to be here and I would be out of a job."*

*S: "I'm not in the mood!"*

*T: "You can't change the way you feel. You can change what you do about it - you have a choice."*

#### **Keep them on task:**

*S: "I'm tired / have a headache."*

*T: "I'm sorry that you are tired / have a headache. Perhaps if you join in, it will take your mind off it."*

*S: "Do you want to see a picture of my pony?"*

*T: "Yes, I would love to see your pony. After the lesson, you can tell me all about it, just now we are..."*

*S: "When will I ever need to know this?"*

*T: "Have you ever asked "when will I ever need to know how to throw a ball or jump over a bar or throw a javelin"? Just as your body needs physical training, your mind needs exercise too— it's not always what we learn that is important. We are learning to learn."*

*S: "I need to sleep."*

*T: "If you choose to sleep now, then this will happen... It would be better if..."*

*S: "I'm bored!"*

*T: "So am I! Let's go and buy shoes!"*

*All resources in the "Contributions" section of our resource bank have been submitted by delegates on our Taking Care of Behaviour Online course. For more information about this practical, self-paced course, please visit*

*<http://www.pivotaeducation.com/taking-care-of-behaviour-online/>*