Better Teaching®

Tips for Teachers Calendar

Elementary Edition

GCS Right Start
Office of Induction and Success

November 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 "The best teachers have the best students—every year." —*Todd Whitaker*	**2** Make your classroom a place where students feel physically and emotionally safe.	**3** Celebrate Sandwich Day. Assign a "how-to" essay on making a favorite sandwich.	**4** Wear a rubber band on your wrist. Snap it when you are being self-critical.
5 Stay healthy. Make an appointment this month to get a flu shot.	**6** Create a reading calendar with your students. Include an at-home activity for every day.	**7** Highlight the state standards you addressed this week in your class newsletter.	**8** Write the day's schedule in code. Can your students break the code?	**9** Greet students at the door with this challenge: "Tell me one thing you learned yesterday."	**10** Review and practice class rules for behavior in the hallways.	**11** Eat out at a restaurant you've never tried before.
12 Make excellence, not perfection, your goal.	**13** For students with summer birthdays, celebrate Half Birthdays six months early.	**14** Give a copy of your class newsletter to your principal. Post it on your website, too.	**15** Buy a plastic hard hat for the student who is your "hardest worker" to wear.	**16** Label a copy paper box for each month. Store calendars, decorations and supplies.	**17** Group students according to food groups. Ask what they ate for dinner. Or ask about favorite foods.	**18** Make an extra set of house and car keys to keep in your desk at school.
19 Take a day off. Don't do any school work today.	**20** Plan to get up 15 minutes earlier tomorrow.	**21** Label your cabinet drawers so a substitute can find supplies quickly.	**22** Give students "Glow" (compliments) and "Grow" (suggestions) comments on their work.	**23** "Do not let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do." —*John Wooden*	**24** Avoid stress by planning to arrive at a meeting or appointment five minutes early.	**25** Remember two characteristics of effective teachers: They're organized and they're flexible.
26 Make a list of things students can do when they're finished with seat work.	**27** Practice math facts or spelling words with your students while they are waiting in line.	**28** Record students as they read aloud. Share the recordings with parents.	**29** Consider mounting rain gutters on your walls to display books facing out.	**30** Make a snack to share with all staff members, including custodians and cafeteria workers.		

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