Better Teaching®

Tips for Teachers Calendar

Secondary Edition

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December 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 "Mistakes are the portals of discovery." —*James Joyce*
2 Be sure to get enough sleep—even if you don't finish everything.	**3** Teens need structure, though they may complain about it.	**4** Make sure students learn something brand new in your subject area each day.	**5** Do not allow your students to insult one another in your classroom.	**6** Clip the class set of work together immediately after students turn in their assignments.	**7** Clean off the top of your desk. Don't put everything back.	**8** Buy or make a few favorite food items for a "survival drawer" in your desk.
9 This month can be hectic. Take a few minutes for yourself today.	**10** Never assign writing as a punishment.	**11** Take a 15-minute exercise break today. Walk around your school building.	**12** Don't just write "good" on a paper. Tell students what they did that was good.	**13** Find a way for an at-risk student to showcase work to the rest of the class.	**14** Help students see *why* they missed questions when you hand back a test.	**15** Make time for exercise. It's especially important during busy times.
16 Listen to music as you grade papers. It's one way to reduce stress.	**17** Simply making eye contact with students is one way to motivate them.	**18** Place a funny cartoon or quotation inside a desk drawer to give you a lift.	**19** Remind students that everyone has good days and bad days—even you!	**20** Sort through a pile of clutter in your room. You'll relieve stress as you clear it out.	**21** Prepare a lesson plan for the first day after winter break. You'll be glad you did.	**22** Browse through the bookstore or library for some audio books.
23 Take a walk and look at the winter sky.	**24** Think about what you can do for personal growth.	**25** Enjoy food and fun with your family today.	**26** Plan a special breakfast or lunch to catch up with old friends.	**27** Look through a unit you plan to teach in January. Make any necessary changes now.	**28** Think of ways you might improve communication with parents next year.	**29** List all the ways you have made a difference this year.
30 "How wonderful it is that nobody need wait ...	**31** ... to improve the world." —*Anne Frank*					

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