Better Teaching®

Tips for Teachers Calendar

Elementary Edition

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Have students look in a newspaper for stories that include fractions or decimals.	**2** "Stay aware, listen carefully and yell for help when you need it." —*Judy Blume*
3 Make a list of 10 things you love. Buy one to take to school tomorrow.	**4** Create a bulletin board—"The Books We Love Best." Ask your parents to contribute.	**5** Teachers who give effective positive feedback reduce disruptions by 30 percent.	**6** Give volunteers cocoa mix to warm them up during this cold month.	**7** Start planning now for the 100th Day of School.	**8** Create a "fine arts gallery" in your room. Hang student work in inexpensive, yard-sale frames.	**9** Take a nice leisurely walk.
10 Listen to a beautiful piece of music today.	**11** Make eye contact to let students know you see their misbehavior. Often, that's just enough to stop it.	**12** Check the student work you have displayed. Make sure all students have something on display.	**13** Create a list of your strengths as a teacher. Find ways to build on these strengths.	**14** "Let what you love be what you do." —*Rumi*	**15** Designate tonight "Make Up Your Own Homework Night."	**16** Spend time on a hobby. It's a good way to keep balance in your life.
17 Stretch your limits a little bit each day.	**18** Phone or email a student who is absent from school.	**19** Have someone else proofread everything you send home to parents.	**20** Challenge the class to read "Around the World," awarding one mile for each page.	**21** Have students work in small groups to actively do something with new information.	**22** Take students on a "bird walk" around the school. Later, graph the types of birds you saw.	**23** Read a nonfiction book on a subject you enjoy.
24 Your good health is important. Plan to have a checkup soon.	**25** Have students create picture books based on their favorite books. Share them with a younger class.	**26** Spend 10 or 15 minutes decluttering one area of your classroom.	**27** "Echo reading" boosts fluency. Read a line; have students repeat it.	**28** Find a local street or park named for a person. Research that person's story.	**29** It's a Leap Year. Teach students why an extra day needs to be added every four years.	

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