Better Teaching®

Tips for Teachers Calendar

Elementary Edition

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Take time to create a daily action plan. Planning ahead will save you time this month.
2 Find a new café. Sit down with the Sunday paper and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee.	**3** Before assigning homework, ask yourself how you will use the assignment with your students.	**4** Give your students a short break between subjects—especially in the afternoon. This can boost learning.	**5** Take a few minutes each day to jot down your thoughts about how the day went.	**6** Have students graph the fat grams in their favorite snacks. Talk about healthier choices.	**7** Coordinate with a teacher nearby so you can quickly call each other for help if the need arises.	**8** Stop and take a break if you feel your stress level rising.
9 One of the best ways to find more time is to say "no" occasionally.	**10** Look around your classroom. Praise students who are on task.	**11** Create Top 10 lists with your students—favorite books, authors, places to visit.	**12** Use a signal to indicate inappropriate behavior—a finger to the lips or a head shake.	**13** Have students repeat directions. You will be able to check that they understand what to do.	**14** Celebrate Pi Day today. Have fun with a pi recitation contest.	**15** Visit a bookstore. Buy a magazine on a topic that interests you.
16 Research shows a link between student discipline and achievement. Think about your classroom management issues.	**17** Teach your students how to "subvocalize"—to talk silently to themselves as they work.	**18** Hold a history trivia challenge. Use facts your students have learned.	**19** Cut out grocery store ads. Use them to create word problems for students.	**20** Use the five most difficult questions in a unit as your pre-assessment.	**21** Cheerfully point out your own mistakes. You'll be a role model for your students.	**22** Start investigating courses you can take this summer.
23 Take time for some outdoor exercise today.	**24** Challenge your students to beat a timer.	**25** Have students read along silently with a recorded reading. Then read the passage aloud.	**26** Take a walk around the school. Look for signs of spring.	**27** Have students bring in favorite reading materials to share with the class.	**28** Surprise students with a DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) session when they least expect it.	**29** Take time for a long walk with a friend.
30 "The job of an educator is to teach students to see ...	**31** ... the vitality in themselves." —*Joseph Campbell*					

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