Welcome to your 15-Day Challenge
DAY 10

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Introductions

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Attitude of Gratitude
Engaging Activity: Attitude of Gratitude

1. Sit comfortably, and if you like you can close your eyes.
2. Think of something/someone in your life for which you are thankful, or grateful. It can be anything or anyone!
3. Take a few moments to just appreciate this thing or person.
4. Now think of another thing or person for which you are grateful.
5. Take a few moments to appreciate this thing or person.
6. Notice how you feel.

*As you introduce this exercise, you might want to model an example for learners before bringing them through the exercise.

*This is a nice exercise to take a few responses from learners after the exercise is finished.
Toolkit for a Balanced Life...

- Sleep & Active Relaxation
- Socialization
- Nutrition
- Learn & Create
- Movement & Play

“The brain is like Teflon for positive experiences.”

Self-Care strategies help us to build resilience.
Alternate Nostril Breathing
Engaging Activity: Alternate Nostril Breathing

1. Let’s start with a few deep breaths through the nose.
2. Inhale, close the right nostril by pressing the side of the nose with the right thumb.
3. Exhale out the left nostril.
4. Inhale through the left nostril.
5. Close the left nostril by pressing the side of the nose with your right pinky and fourth finger. At the same time, take your thumb off of your right nostril.
6. Exhale out the right nostril.
7. Inhale through the right nostril.
8. Close the right nostril with your thumb again and exhale through the left (removing the pinky and fourth finger).
9. This is one round. Complete 2 or 3 rounds by repeating steps 2-8. End on a left exhalation.
10. Take a few regular breaths.
11. Notice how you feel.

Notes:
*The hand movements will take some practice to feel comfortable.
*If thumb and pinky are too hard for learners to coordinate, you could use right thumb to close right nostril and left thumb to close left nostril.
*Once your learners have mastered the hand movements, helpful verbal cues are: inhale right, close, exhale left. Inhale left, close, exhale right.
*This exercise can take 1 to 3 minutes.
Neurochemicals

Endorphins

Neurotransmitters

Improved mood

Improved memory

This idea might seem counterintuitive, but experts say it really works.

Consider this scenario: You’ve spent a few hours on the same project, and suddenly your attention starts to wander. Even though it’s hard to keep your mind on the task, you stay at your desk, forcing yourself to keep going.
Move

Recharge Sequence

Wave Sequence

Sandwich
Engaging Activity: Recharge Sequence
Engaging Activity: Wave Sequence
Mindful Movement: Sandwich
Guided Rest/Body Scan
Engaging Activity: Guided Rest / Body Scan

1. Lie down on the floor on your back. Spread your feet apart. Turn your palms up to face the ceiling and close your eyes.

2. Put your attention on your forehead. Feel your forehead relax.

3. Put your attention on your eyes. Feel your eyes relax.

4. Put your attention on your cheeks and jaw. Feel your cheeks and jaw relax.

5. Put your attention on your neck. Feel your neck relax.

6. Put your attention on your shoulders. Feel your shoulders relax. (Repeat for arms, wrists, hands, fingers.)

7. Put your attention on your chest. Feel your chest relax.

8. Put your attention on your back. Feel where your back touches the floor (or the chair).

9. Put your attention on your belly. Notice how the breath moves the belly softly up and down.

10. Put your attention on your hips. Feel your hips relax. (Repeat for legs, knees, ankles, feet, toes.)

11. Bring your awareness to your breathing, and notice where you feel the breath in your body. Maybe you notice it in your nostrils. Maybe you feel it in your chest. Maybe you feel it in your belly.

12. See if you can get really quiet. Maybe you will even feel your heart beating inside your body.

13. Let learners rest in silence for a few moments.


15. Slowly start to wiggle your fingers and toes. Take a deep breath in and stretch your arms overhead. As you exhale, relax.

16. Open your eyes and slowly return to a seated position.

17. Notice how you are feeling.
Day 10:
Describe a family tradition that you are most grateful for