Amplify.

20 self-care tips for educators right now



1. Get some air!

Walk around the neighborhood, bring a chair and your laptop outside, or, at the very least, throw open a window, rain or shine.

2. Eat.

When you're less locked in to a regular schedule, it's easy to lose track of time—even meal time. Frozen vegetables are your friend!

3. Make time for small indulgences.

4. Spruce up your work space.

Wherever you're working these days, take a quick 10 to make it more ergonomic, clear a little clutter, or screen it off from the rest of your space.

5. Embrace endorphins.

Make sure to move, whether it's a long socially-distant run or a quick TikTok dance.

6. Drink water.

It's healthy to hydrate—and to get up and down for refills.

7. Stretch—every inning.

School keeps you on your feet. Home...doesn't. Set a timer to remind you to move every hour (at least).

8. Turn off your screens.

Resist the late-night siren songs of Netflix and news, and see how much better an extra hour a night of shut-eye makes you feel.

9. Take 10 mindful breaths.

Requires just a few minutes, it's good for mind and body—and there are lots of apps that will beep to remind you to do it.

10. Connect to nature.

Share a photo of the view from your window. Grow a tiny plant on your desk. Take five to zone out and watch a webcam of lapping waves or nesting birds.

11. Let loose a little.

When you can, step outside your comfort zone. (Two words: Zoom karaoke.)

12. Set boundaries.

Change your email signature to indicate when you're "in" (and when you're not). Even better: agree to do this with your team.

13. Vision board!

This period will end. What changes do you want to make for next year's teaching? What issues can you start listing and solving?

14. Connect with students.

Use tech—or good old snail mail—to give your students a word of praise or support.

15. Connect with colleagues.

Create a morning check-in thread or virtual brown-bag lunch to reinforce your team and lift your spirits.

16. Share the good.

See a point of light in the world? A heartwarming anecdote or baby otter gif? Share it!

17. Look for the helpers.

Who around you is going beyond above and beyond than everyone else—delivering meals, sewing masks? Lift them up for recognition and inspiration.

18. Schedule self-care.

Whatever your new or intended self-care ritual, make sure it happens by telling your phone to remind you or planning to do it with a buddy.

19. Add your own.

What other new or tried-and-true self-care inspiration can you offer yourself, or your fellow educators?

20. Share this list!

Help create a community of care by taking a moment to pass this list along.

Visit amplify.com/virtual-literacy-symposium for more information!