

Daily Tips: February 2021

February 1	Say “Hello” to everyone you meet once you arrive at work—office personnel, the custodian, your team mates, the cafeteria worker, parents, and of course youth. Greet them all with a genuine smile.
February 2	When helping with homework, be sure to ask the youth what the directions read and what the teacher explained. Help them to become more self-reliant.
February 3	When going outside for physical activity, be sure to include a warm-up. Train student leaders to lead the warm-up.
February 4	During snack, circulate and talk with the youth, checking in to be sure they had a good day. You can also discuss nutrition—it only makes sense.
February 5	Help youth to transition from the school day to your expanded learning program. Have a team building activity to help them become one.
February 8	Transitions can be challenging. Practice them regularly and acknowledge when youth make a successful transition.
February 9	Practice 10 Minutes to Success at the beginning of homework. During this time no one can ask for help. You can spend the time getting small groups orchestrated and youth who struggle with homework on track.
February 10	When selecting teams be sure that no one is consistently picked “last”. Have youth become part of a team that changes often and is scheduled randomly.
February 11	Share a word of praise with the parents of the youth you serve. Your kind words can go a long way.
February 12	Encourage youth to compete a Random Act of Kindness today. Discuss with them what possible acts they could do.
February 15	Ask the youth how many Presidents they can name. Make a list and then ask them for the facts they know.
February 16	Have children play Addition or Multiplication War. All you need is a deck of cards for every two children. Remove the face cards and divide the deck. Each player turns over a card and the first one with the sum or the product, wins both cards.
February 17	Be sure you have a greeter who will acknowledge every adult who enters your room. Have them introduce themselves and share what the class is doing.
February 18	Ask debriefing questions at the end of each activity to transform it into a learning opportunity. Ask youth what they learned and how they will use it.
February 19	Bring youth together in a What’s Up Session. Ask them to share praises and what’s going on with them—such as a new puppy or a challenge with math.
February 22	Be a positive role model for the youth. If you make a mistake, own it, apologize and move on. You are giving youth permission to do the same.
February 23	Teach youth about the element of art labeled “line”. Show them how to doodle by making all kinds of lines—curved, straight, parallel, perpendicular, narrow and wide.
February 24	When it is almost time to clean up and/or transition, let the youth know how much time there is BEFORE the transition or clean-up occurs. It will give them a chance to become mentally ready for the change.
February 25	Do another team building activity with the group. Having them work together to accomplish a goal will bring them closer together.
February 26	Discuss what children will do on the weekend and how they should consider a “random act of kindness” for someone in their family.