



Finishing Strong:

Fending Off The Summer Slide



Introduction



Expectations



Purpose(s)

- To equip educators with practical tips and strategies to help them maintain their motivation and effectiveness through the end of the academic year.
- To equip educators with practical tips and strategies to help fend off summer slides that our learners may experience.

Outcome

- Participants will have an understanding of how motivation plays an important role in classroom effectiveness.
- Participants will acquire some practical tips and strategies that they can use to maintain motivation, finish the academic year strong, and lessen the summer slide.

Dilemma



Statistics

U.S. Workers' Burnout Rates by Industry, 2022

Please indicate how often the following is true of your job: You feel burned out at work.

	% Always/Very often
K-12 education	44
College or university	35
Professional services	33
Government or public policy	33
Retail	32
Healthcare	31
Law	31
Entertainment	29
Manufacturing	28
Technology	25
Utilities	25
Construction	22
Community/Social services	22
Finance	21

FEB. 3-14, 2022 • Get the data

GALLUP



**DAILY
AFFIRMATIONS
FOR TEACHERS**

Motivation

Sinclair indicated that the term ‘teacher motivation’ relates to “something that determines what attracts individuals to teaching, how long they remain in their initial teacher education courses and subsequently the teaching profession, and the extent to which they engage with their courses and the teaching profession” (2008, p. 37).

Posits of Motivation

- Intrinsic motivation
- Extrinsic motivation
- Amotivation

Intrinsic & Extrinsic Motivation





What's your
why?

Teacher Motivation



Teacher motivation is an essential component to enhance classroom effectiveness (Carson & Chase, 2009).

Practical Tips

1. Enjoy time with your students
2. Take care of yourself.
3. Keep students busy doing meaningful work.
4. Take more frequent breaks and keep activities shorter.
5. Choose a powerful read aloud.
6. Keep their bodies moving.
7. Keep yourself calm and maintain your classroom as a learning environment.
8. Leave a lasting impression and set goals for next year.

Retrieved from: <https://theteacherstudio.com/end-of-school-year-survival-tips/>

Retrieved from: <https://online.uwa.edu/news/finishing-the-school-year-strong-tips-for-teachers/#:~:text=Get%20Ready%20to%20Relax,You%27ve%20got%20this!>

Suggested Activities

5 END OF THE YEAR IDEAS TO STAY ENGAGED

The school year is coming to an end and things can get a little crazy. Due to snow days, grades could be slowed before the actual end of school so there is little to be accountable for. Provide them with experiences that enrich their lives and expand their brains.

We all know that without engagement, behavior problems can become an issue, and trying to be more entertaining than the idea of summer vacation, can be difficult. Here's 5 ideas that will help you stay engaged all the way to the last day.

1 STEAM CHALLENGES

These types of challenges can keep the mood active while summer is knocking on the door. Because they are inquiry based, there are many ways to approach the problem and some collaborative learning opportunities.

- Rock Bombs, Squishies, Kinetic Engineering and Chair Reactions [Link](#)
- Musical STEAM with the Orbits in Four Squares [Link](#)
- Base Ten Bundles: A STEAM Activity [Link](#)
- 5 Creative Ways to Introduce STEAM Activities [Link](#)
- STEAM Design Challenge: Kinetic Wind Sculptures [Link](#)
- Steam Challenges: How and Why? Implemented This in my Classroom [Link](#)

2 COLLABORATE

In addition to providing opportunities for teamwork, these large scale projects can be wonderful opening day activities for the beginning of the next year.

- Create a Mural: Check the Previous Blog [Link](#)
- Paint Bots and Create a Path Around Your School: Find an example at [Bored Panda](#), "Every Student Reads This Elementary School read to Read One Book to His Own Style, And Here's The Result" [Link](#)
- Create a Collaborative Grid (Parade of Teachers and Administrators for the next year) find out how [Link](#)

3 GO OUTSIDE

Embrace the sunshine and have students' need for play with activities that can be done outside.

- Do Observational Drawing from Nature
- Use Objects found in nature to create sculptures
- Try Many Activities like:
 - Rock/Leaf Printing [Link](#)
 - Leaf Lenses [Link](#)
 - Water Balloon Printing [Link](#)

4 WRITE

Create postcards of encouragement or advice for other students. There can be addressed to the students coming in next year or to someone over the summer. The postcards can be addressed to teachers from previous years or administrators.

Benefits:

- Provides Student Feedback
- Uses Design Bots with Technology or with Visual Art Skills
- Works on Letter Writing

5 PLUG IN

Sometimes it is good to end the year with some technology play and educational investigations.

- Classroom Mechanics: Find out more about it [Link](#)
- This is a wonderful way to end the year. It is a video game creation program on the computer that is sure to entertain those who are into it.
- Kahoot!: Find out more about it [Link](#)
- Have students pair up and create a Kahoot! for their classmates
- Infographics: Find out more about them [Link](#)
- Design an infographic about the content you learned in class this year. Maybe it could outline for future students what the class is all about.

The end of the year can be crazy busy and a little like handing out, but happily with these 5 ideas to stay engaged can allow everyone involved to set into a happy summer vacation.

Gamification and Summer Slide



Gamification

Early Childhood

Teacher your monster: <https://www.teachyourmonster.org/>

Elementary and Middle School - Math and Science Games

Legends of Learning: <https://www.legendsoflearning.com/>

Educaplay: <https://www.educaplay.com/>

Toytheater: <https://toytheater.com/>



How have you used gamification/can use gamification to foster students' engagement?

Quote

“ YOU DIDN'T COME
THIS FAR TO ONLY
COME THIS FAR.
DIG DEEP,
FINISH
STRONG
AND MAKE
YOURSELF PROUD. ”

———— GARY RYAN BLAIR ————



Resources

Additional Educational sites

[starfall.com](https://www.starfall.com)

[abcya.com](https://www.abcya.com)

[abcmouse.com](https://www.abcmouse.com) - (\$)

[education.com](https://www.education.com) - (\$)

[readworks.com](https://www.readworks.com)

[lexialearning.com](https://www.lexialearning.com)

www.lwtears.com

[blooket.com](https://www.blooket.com)

[kahoot.com](https://www.kahoot.com)

[quizizz.com](https://www.quizizz.com)

www.ixl.com - (\$)

[code.org](https://www.code.org)

[pbskids.org](https://www.pbskids.org)

[bluey.tv](https://www.bluey.tv)

Social - Emotional Support

<https://casal.org>

<https://betterkids.education/free-sel-resources>

<https://characterstrong.com/cs-weeklies/>

Educational apps

learn to read