

Summer TO-DO List for Educators

START A BLOG

A blog is a great way to share your teaching resources and expertise with fellow educators and parents from all around the globe.

INVEST IN YOURSELF

As you spend so much of your time investing in others, what can you do for yourself? Perhaps that means some self-care however you define that for you or taking up a hobby/interest that you continually put off. The summer is the best time to try something new! Here are a few ideas:

- Cooking classes
- Dancing lessons
- Book clubs
- Music lessons
- Workout routine/sports club

PLAN FOR NEXT SCHOOL YEAR

Before you fully close the books on another successful school year, take a day or two to think about some things you'd like to do or change for next year while memories are fresh in your mind. Here are a few prompts to get you started:

- Which activities will I do for the 1st week back-to-school?
- Is there a specific classroom management system that I want to implement?

- What information will I put in the back-to-school note to parents?
- Are there any teaching materials that need to be purchased?
- Do I need to familiarize myself with any new curriculum?

CREATE A SUMMER BUCKET LIST

While you may not be able to travel or do the things you'd normally do this summer, here are some simple (and funny) ideas to take a break from the classroom this summer:

1. Let Go – Give yourself a break, breathe, and give yourself permission to let go of the running to-do list in your head.
2. Go to lunch/picnic.... on a weekday! – Where possible, treat yourself to this well-deserved lunch break.
3. Read a book that you WANT to read.
4. Spend time outside where you are not in charge of keeping 30 children from climbing up a slide.
5. Enjoy some silence.
6. DON'T plan for a single day –it's OK to wing it every once in awhile.
7. Show gratitude for last school year and optimism for next year.

MAKE YOUR READING LISTS

Spend some time reading books that will support your professional development. It is a perfect time to catch up on reading that you may not have had time for during the school year. As you start your lists, here are a few recommendations:

1. Move Your Bus

Move Your Bus is an accessible and uplifting business parable that illustrates Clark's expert strategies to maximize the performance of each member of a team. These easy to implement techniques will inspire employees and team leaders alike to work harder and smarter and drive the organization to succeed.

2. Crash Course

Crash Course chronicles the life lessons that Kim Bearden has learned during an award-winning career in education. From her challenges as a first-year teacher to her triumphs as the cofounder of the highly acclaimed Ron Clark Academy, Kim shares how children can teach each of us the importance of building relationships, abandoning fear, discovering resilience, embracing one's unique gifts, and living with passion.

3. On a Beam of Light: A Story of Albert Einstein

A boy rides a bicycle down a dusty road. But in his mind, he envisions himself traveling at a speed beyond imagining, on a beam of light. This brilliant mind will one day offer up some of the most revolutionary ideas ever conceived. From a boy endlessly fascinated by the wonders around him, Albert Einstein ultimately grows into a man of genius recognized the world over for profoundly illuminating our understanding of the universe.

4. Good-bye, Mr. Chips

Goodbye, Mr. Chips follows the life of English schoolmaster Mr. Chipping as he journeys through teaching at a Private English School for boys in the 1870's. It is told through the memories of the many students who came to say their final farewells.

5. Creative Schools: The Grassroots Revolution That's Transforming Education

Filled with anecdotes, observations and recommendations from professionals on the front line of transformative education, case histories, and groundbreaking research—and written with Robinson's trademark wit and engaging style—Creative Schools will inspire teachers, parents, and policy makers alike to rethink the real nature and purpose of education.

