

Deep Breathing

a great way to divert your child's attention and help your child calm down when he/she is scared or overly excited. Slow, long and deep breaths allow for more carbon dioxide to enter the blood, which quiets down parts of the brain that handle anxiety responses.



Deep Breathing Basics

- 1.Get comfortable by lying on the floor or sitting up straight.
- 2. Put one hand on your chest and the other hand over your belly.
- 3. Breathe in through your nose,
 1..2..3..4.. When you breathe in, feel
 your belly rise like a balloon
 blowing up. Watch your hand on
 your belly rise, while your hand on
 your chest stays still.
- 4. Then, breathe out slowly through your nose, 1..2..3..4.. Feel your belly go back in, like a balloon deflating.
- 5. Keep breathing like this a few more times. With practice, it gets easier.



Breathe in

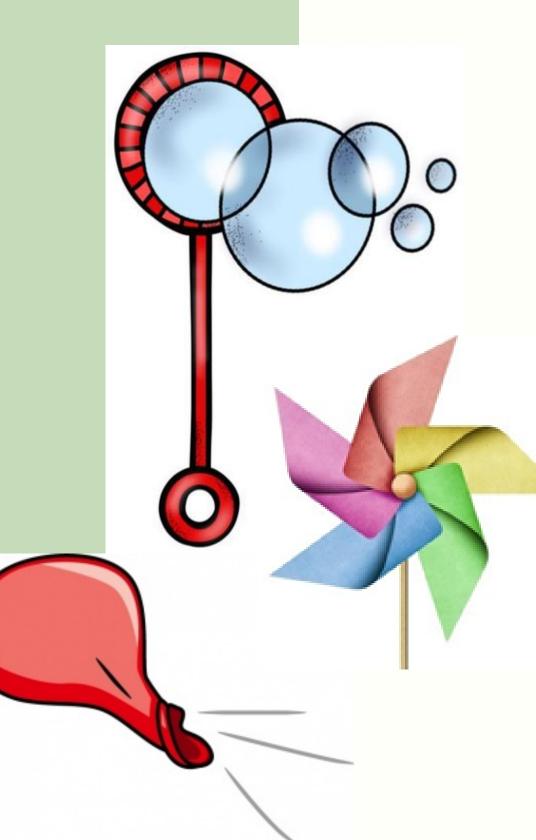


Breathe out



Blow

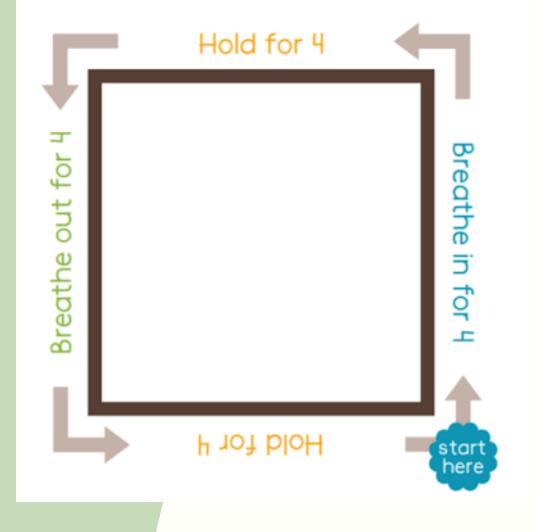
Bubbles Balloon Pinwheel



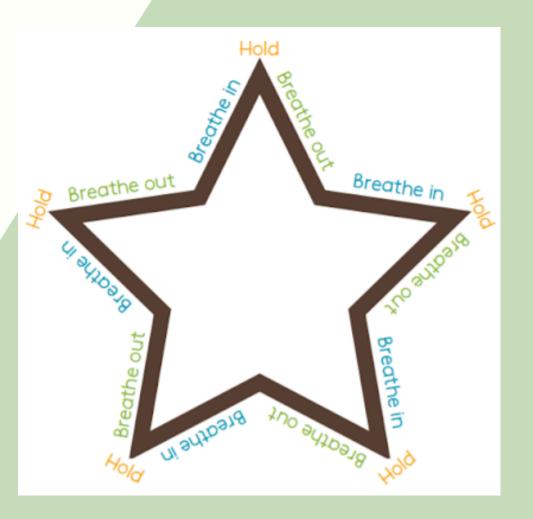


Square Breathing

Start at the bottom right of the square, and follow the arrows around the whole square to complete one deep breath







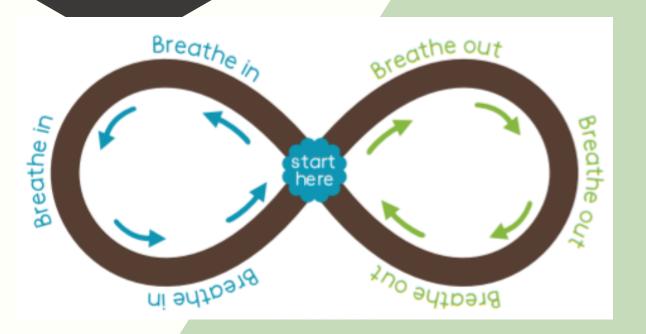
Start at any
"Breathe in" side,
hold your breath
at the point, then
breath out. keep
going until you've
gone around the
whole star

Star
Breathing



Lazy 8 Breathing



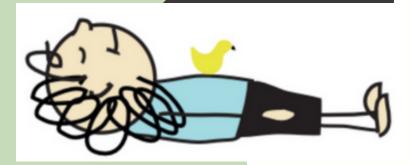


Start with an 8 on its side. Starting in the middle, go up to the left and trace the 8 with your finger while you breathe in. when you get to the middle of the 8 again, breathe out while you trace the right part of the 8 with your finger

Trace Your Fingers



Use a Stuffed Toy



Use a stuffed toy to help make breathing more visual for your child. They can see it rise as the belly is filled with air.

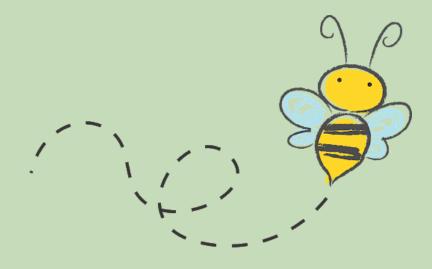
Encourage them to make the toy rise as high as possible.

Then your child can notice the toy fall as they feel the belly shrink

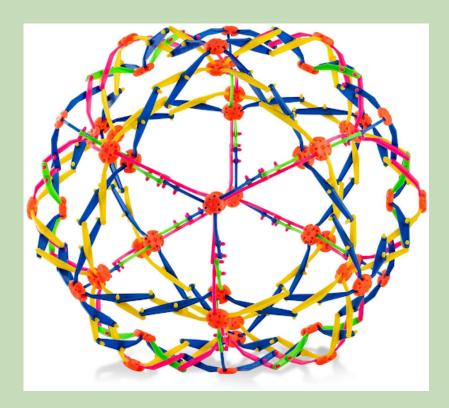




Bumblebee Breath



Pretend that you are a bumblebee. Breathe in and smell a flower. As you breathe out, make a humming bee sound.



Breathe in and expand the sphere. Breathe out and push the sphere back in.

Hoberman Sphere



Rainbow Breathing

Start by having your arms at the side of your body. Move your arms up as you breathe in and move your arms down as you breathe out to make a rainbow..

Use a Feather



Keep the feather afloat with deep breaths in and out.