## Deep Breathing and Meditation Techniques

## Deep Breathing

Deep breathing is an easy way to relax and take pressure off of your mind within a matter of minutes.

## Here's what you need to do to practice deep breathing:

- 1. Sit comfortably, keep your spine upright, shoulders relaxed, close your eyes, and imagine your happy place.
- 2. Place a hand on your belly and breathe in for 3 counts and breathe out for 3 more counts.
- 3. Pay attention to the rise and fall of your belly. As you breathe in it should feel like a balloon is being filled and as you breathe out it should feel like the balloon is deflating.
- 4. As you repeat this exercise and get used to the rhythm, you can slowly move your hand from your belly and place it loosely on your lap.
- 5. Repeat this for at least 5 to 10 minutes in one sitting.

## Meditation

In addition to deep breathing, meditation is a practice that can help us reach a calm and stable state of mind in a few moments.

Here's a simple, basic meditation technique that can be easily incorporated in your daily schedule:

1. Sit comfortably, keep your spine upright, shoulders relaxed, and close your eyes.

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- 2. Use your breath as a point of focus. Slowly breathe in for 3 to 4 counts and then breathe out for 3 more counts.
- 3. If you find your mind wandering, gently redirect your focus back to your breaths.
- 4. Repeat this exercise for 5 to 10 minutes.

Remember that deep breathing and meditation is not a magic pill. Like all skills, the more you practice these techniques, the better you will get at using them to calm your body and mind quickly.

All the best!