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FAMILY CALMING STRATEGIES

FREE MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT FOR THE 2020 CORONAVIRUS QUARANTINE

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HOW ARE YOU FEELING?

PRINT THIS AND PUT IT ON YOUR FRIDGE



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STOP & PAUSE



STOP!

Pause for a moment to think about the situation.

Take a breath.

Notice your breathing to center yourself.

Observe.

What are your thoughts? What sensations? Be an emotion scientist. Observe without judging yourself. YOU are not your emotion. You are simply feeling an emotion, which will pass.

Perspective.

What is the bigger picture? How important will it be in six months? Is this situation a fact or an opinion?

Adapted from the STOPP Method, Vivyan, 2015

HOW BIG IS MY PROBLEM?

PRINT THIS AND PUT IT ON YOUR FRIDGE



LEVEL 1: GLITCH

Losing a Game, Not Getting Something You Want Potential Emotions: Okay, Content, Fine, Calm

LEVEL 2: LITTLE PROBLEM

Forgetting Homework, Lost Supplies, Don't Know What To Do Potential Emotions: Unhappy, Disappointed, Annoyed, Embarrassed

LEVEL 3: MEDIUM PROBLEM

Minor Accident, Being Disrespected, Feeling Sick Potential Emotions: Worried, Frustrated, Exhausted, Hurt

LEVEL 4: BIG PROBLEM

Fighting, Getting Lost, Someone Gets Hurt Potential Emotions: Upset, Scared, Mad, Anxious

LEVEL 5: EMERGENCY

Tornado, Fire, Danger, Serious Injury Potential Emotions: Enraged, Terrified, Hysterical, Angry

WHAT'S THE WORST THAT COULD HAPPEN & HOW IS MY PROBLEM BETTER THAN THAT?

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ARE YOU GETTING EVERYTHING YOU NEED?

If you're running on empty, you are probably not getting a basic need met. Ask yourself these questions to determine what you need.

Need for Hope

- What motivates me and brings me hope? What is my purpose in life?
- If I feel hopeless, am I watching too much bad news right now?
- How can I serve the world? How can I serve my family and community?
- What can I do right now to bring a little more hope and kindness into the world?
- How can I pivot my job and life to align more with my values?

Self-Esteem Needs

- Where do I get my self-esteem from? What can I do right now to validate myself and recognize my own challenges and achievements?
- What are my strengths and weaknesses? Can I accept these things?
- Do I realize that I am a worthy person, regardless of my mood, my accomplishments, my failures, relationship status, or bank account?

Social Needs

- Am I feeling lonely? When was the last time I had a hug and had a face-to-face conversation?
- Who can I call right now to connect and feel a sense of friendship? Is there someone who might appreciate a check-in?
- What online group can I join to support myself during this quarantine?

Safety Needs

- Do I feel safe and financially secure? How can I improve my safety and security right now? What can I do right now to ensure I have enough food, money, protective equipment, and supplies?
- What resources can I reach out to if I need help?

Physiological Needs

- Am I tired? Am I hungry? Do I need to go to the bathroom?
- Have I gotten enough exercise?
- How much water have I had over the past 24 hours?
- Did I get some fresh air and sunshine today?
- What can I do right now to meet some of these needs?

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A QUICK LIST OF CALMING STRATEGIES

Stress can affect all different areas of our lives. Sometimes we may feel tired, or hyper. Sometimes we might get headaches, or our stomachs might hurt. Anger and anxiety come out in all different ways and we each have different ways of dealing with them. Below are a few different ways to handle stress. Try them next time you're feeling nervous or anxious and circle whether or not they helped you:

STRATEGY	DID IT HELP?	
Get some exercise.	Υ	N
Watch a sad movie and cry it out.	Υ	N
Make a plan to meet more of your needs.	Υ	N
Color a picture.	Υ	N
Cook something special for yourself.	Υ	N
Play music, sing, or dance.	Υ	N
Write down everything you are feeling.	Υ	N
Talk to someone you trust.	Υ	N
Play outside or take a walk.	Υ	N
Take 10 deep breaths.	Υ	N
Snuggle a pet.	Υ	N
Watch a movie or read a book.	Υ	N
Do some yoga.	Υ	N

Credit: Kate Vivino, Lenox & Lincoln Elementary Schools

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FOR ANGER & FRUSTRATION

Anger is a normal emotion. Befriend it. It will help you see where your boundaries are and what you need to change.



Ν

STRATEGY

Stop and take a breath.

Talk it out! Talk to somebody you trust.

Think before you speak. Stop. Think. Act.

Try deep breathing or muscle relaxation.

Walk or exercise.

Pause & step away from the situation.

Write down everything you are feeling.

Identify possible solutions.

Reframe your thinking.

Take 10 deep breaths.

Count all the red things in the room.

Watch a movie or read a book.

Do some yoga.

DID IT HELP?

Υ

Y

Y

Y

Y

Y

Y

Y

Y

Y

Y

Y

N

I KNOW I'M ANGRY WHEN I FEEL THE FOLLOWING SENSATIONS:



FOR GRIEF & SADNESS

Sadness is a normal emotion. Befriend it. Grief is just love with no place to go. It helps you identify what you love.



STRATEGY DID IT HELP?

Let it out. Identify & express the emotions.

Talk it out! Talk to somebody you trust.

Go for a walk. Let yourself cry.

Try deep breathing.

Walk or exercise.

Watch a sad movie and let yourself cry.

Take a long shower.

Cuddle your pet or ask for a hug.

Make yourself a nice meal.

Watch a comedy skit.

Count all the blue things in the room.

Learn about it. Google "stages of grief."

Do some yoga.

Υ		N
---	--	---

Y

Y

Y

Y

Y

Y

Y

Y

Y

Y

Y

N

I KNOW I'M SAD WHEN I DO THE FOLLOWING:



FOR FEAR & ANXIETY

Fear and anxiety are normal. They help me recognize when I am feeling unsafe so that I can do something about it.



STRATEGY DID IT HELP? Take deep, long breaths. Ν Untwist your thinking. Reframe. Ν Write it all down to get it off your chest. Ν Talk it out with someone you trust. N Squeeze a stress ball. Ν N Blow bubbles. Take a long shower. N Cuddle your pet or ask for a hug. N Make yourself a nice meal. Ν Watch a comedy skit. Clean your room. Get noise canceling headphones. N

I KNOW I'M ANXIOUS WHEN I DO THE FOLLOWING:

Do some yoga.



FOR LONELINESS

Loneliness is normal. Everyone feels lonely sometimes, especially during the quarantine. It's proof you are human.



STRATEGY

Call a friend and check in on them.

Start a new hobbie.

Make masks for healthcare workers.

Cuddle your pet or ask someone for a hug.

Chalk your walk with happy messages.

Create a Gratitude Wall (see our website).

Watch a funny movie.

Write in your journal.

Write a letter to a friend.

Go for a walk. Enjoy nature.

Listen to music. Have a solo dance party.

Write positive affirmations to yourself.

Help a neighbor.

DID IT HELP?

Y

Y

Υ

Y

Y

Y

Y

Υ

Y

Y

Y

Y

I KNOW I'M LONELY WHEN I DO THE FOLLOWING:



MY PLAN FOR TOUGH EMOTIONS



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The Coronavirus Pandemic is making family life pretty challenging. Here's my plan to handle the stress, so I am better prepared for bad days.

I love my family and want to be a good team player. I also want to model good behavior for my children. When I am angry or am really anxious, this is what I will say to remove myself from the situation:	
Then, I will go to this room to calm down:	
When I get to my private space, I will try these calming strategies : 1)	
2)	
I will return to my family when:	
I will prepare my family for this by telling them about my new plan. This is who will tell them:	at I

FAMILY PLAN FOR HANDLING CONFLICT



The Coronavirus Pandemic is making family life pretty challenging. Here's our plan to handle conflict.

When there is a conflict, here's the safe word that we will use to stop the drama immediately:	
Then, we will all take 10 minutes to cool down and reset. Once we are done with that time, we will hold a family meeting to talk about it. Here are our rules for this meeting, so that everyone feels heard, valued, and loved:	
In this family, we want to feel (positive feelings):	
Which is why we are following these rules.	
We, the Family, agree to these rules.	

FEELINGS CARDS

Is your child struggling to identify his/her feelings?
Develop their emotional vocabulary. Talk about each emotion & write favorite
Calming Strategies on the back.



CONFUSED



DISAPPOINTED



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SCARED



OVERWHELMED



TRIGGERED

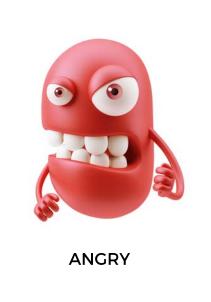


WORRIED

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WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN HAVE YOU **HOW DO YOU CALM** FELT SCARED? WHEN YOU FEEL **DOWN WHEN YOU** ARE FEELING **CONFUSED? ANGRY?** WHAT DOES IT FEEL WHAT DOES IT FEEL **WOULD YOU** LIKE WHEN YOU'RE LIKE WHEN YOU'RE **RATHER BE LONELY** MAD? WHAT'S ONE SAD? HOW DO YOU **OR EMBARRASSED?** THING YOU DO TO MAKE YOURSELF **CALM YOURSELF FEEL BETTER?** DOWN? WHAT'S ONE THING HOW DO YOU DEAL WHAT'S ONE GOOD YOU ARE GRATEFUL THING ABOUT OUR WITH FOR? **DISAPPOINTMENT? QUARANTINE THAT** MAKES YOU HAPPY? LOOK FOR THE GOOD® PROJECT.ORG

LOOK FOR THE GOOD GAME

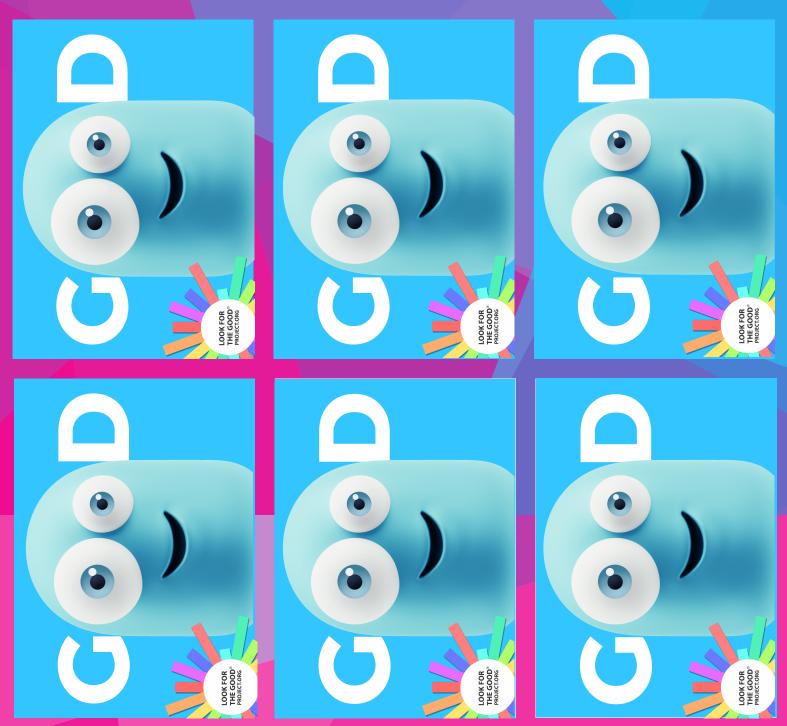


DIRECTIONS

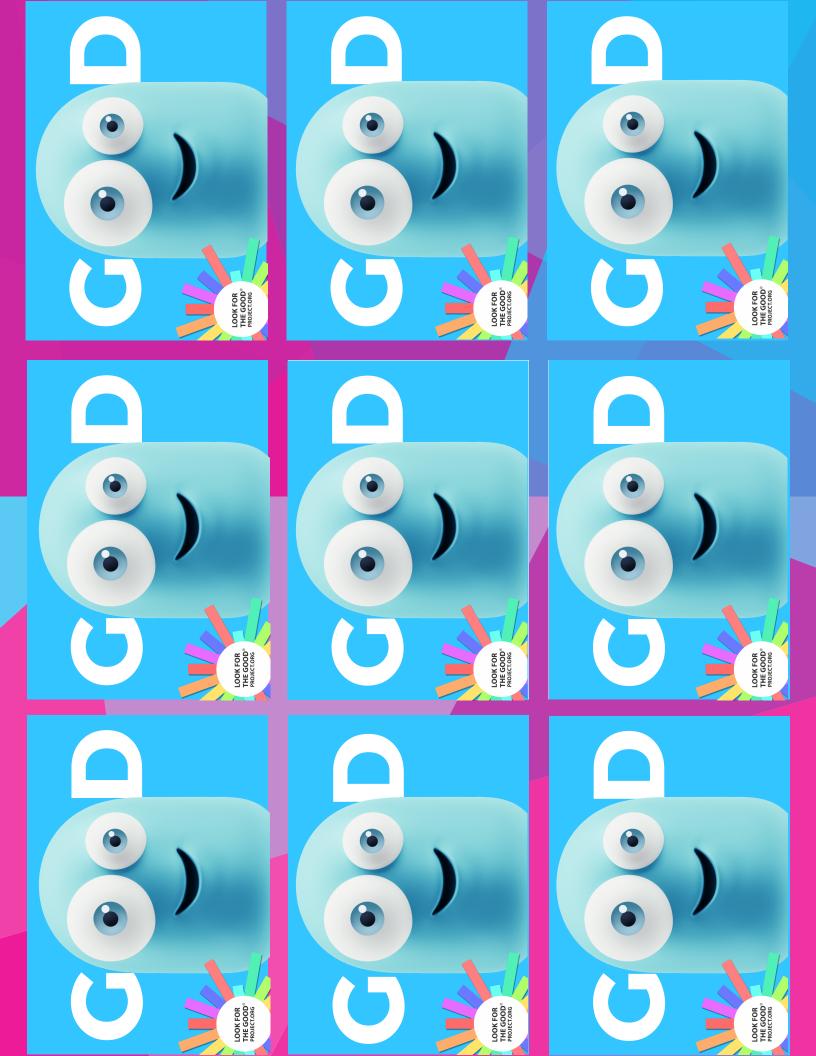
Print this out and tape it to your floor to inspire your family to look for the good. When you step on it, share one thing that makes you grateful. :-)

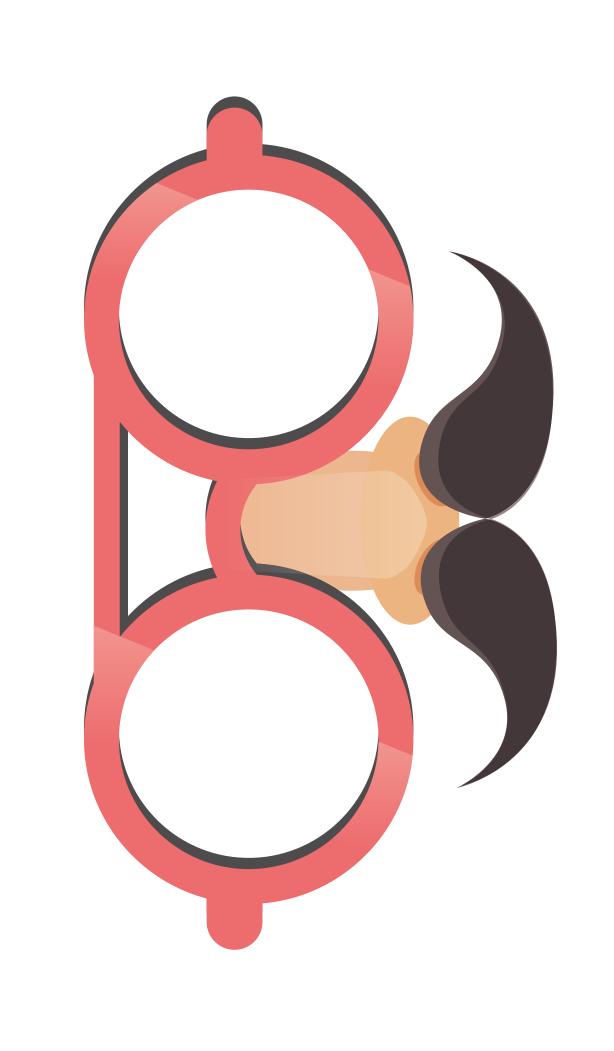
GOOD CARDS

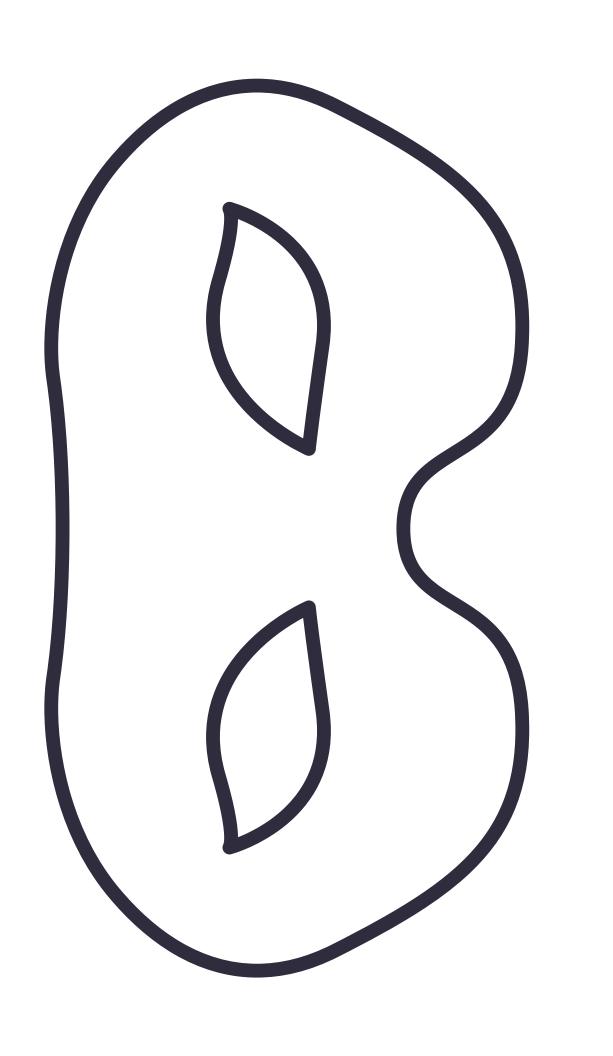
Cut out these cards and leave them around the house and neighborhood for people to find a little good. To play the "Look for the Good Game", simply hide these around your home and then ask players to search for them and share something they're thankful for each time they find a card. Make your own too! Coat them with tape if you want to hide them outside.



Share YOUR gratitude by emailing a selfie with one of these cards to lookforthegood@submit.media. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to see your photo!







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SHARE YOUR PHOTOS & VIDEOSI CONNECT!

EMAIL PHOTOS & VIDEO TO:
LOOKFORTHEGOOD@SUBMIT.MEDIA