

**Six End-of-School-Year Teacher Tips**

Fast approaching is the time that all teachers both love and dread—the end of another school year. With the last day officially on the horizon, you can feel the excitement (and restlessness) radiating from your students. However, there is still work to be done before final grades are submitted!

With papers piling up and patience running low, how do teachers make it through this time of year to [summer](https://mycalcas.com/2019/07/summer-rejuvenation-ideas-for-educators/) break?

Here are some end-of-the-year strategies and tips for teachers:

**1. Count it down**

Give students something to look forward to each day when they come to school by doing an activity that lets them count down the days until summer break. Need some countdown ideas that will keep your students engaged and motivated up until the very last day? Check [these](https://kteachertiff.com/2017/04/ideas-end-school-year.html) out!

**2. Try something new!**

You know that one lesson plan or activity that you’ve wanted to try, but just never had the time to do? The end of the year can and should still be for useful learning! If you have gaps in your lesson plans, it’s the perfect time to test new strategies you’ve had in mind and would like to incorporate into your classroom plans for next year.

**3. Stay in your routine as long as possible**

Any experienced teacher will tell you that maintaining your routine is one of the best ways to navigate all the end-of-year craziness. That said, it doesn’t hurt to add some fun games to your classroom routine!

**4. Get organized**

Among all the finals, overdue homework, grading, and lessons you’re still completing, your desk can pile up pretty quickly at the end of the year. Staying organized and tracking progress on work tasks are key to finishing the year strong and getting final grades in on time.

**5. Carve out some time for yourself**

Although you want to stay on top of your work, try not to spend every night hunkered down in your classroom attempting to get everything done all at once. Finding some time for [self-care](https://mycalcas.com/2018/12/16-easy-self-care-tips-for-educators/) is important, especially during the end of the year when you feel like your to-do list is a mile long. Allow time to go home and relax, take a walk outside, play with your children, read, take a bath, etc. This may seem counter-intuitive, but you will be able to release your stress and have more energy for the final push as the last day of school gets closer.

**6. Reflect on the successes of your year**

Take some time, with or without your students, to reflect on the past school year--what they’ve learned, what their favorite lessons were, the friendships that were built, and the strong bond you all have formed as a class. Celebrate student successes, laugh at funny moments, and don’t forget to give yourself credit for all you have accomplished as an educator, as well.

Lastly, accept that your last few days of school are going to be filled with emotion and require your full attention. But [the end is near](https://mycalcas.com/2018/05/4-things-teachers-end-school-year/). It may get a little rocky and you may become overwhelmed, but soon you’ll be packing up your classroom and all of your memories from this past school year with it. Remember to enjoy your last days and moments with your students.

Hang in there—you’ve got this!

*California Casualty has been serving the needs of educators since 1951 and is the only auto and home insurance company to earn the trust and endorsement of the National Education Association (NEA). Learn how to save on your insurance by getting a quote at* [*www.neamb.com/autohome*](http://www.neamb.com/autohome)*, or by calling 1.800.800.9410.*