# **Brain Based Self-Regulation Suggestions**

## **Try: Deep Breathing Before Transitions**



**How it helps:** Calms the amygdala and activates the vagus nerve to reduce stress.

#### **Try: Mirror a Friend's Movements**



**How it helps:** Engages mirror neurons and supports empathy and social understanding.

#### **Try: Obstacle Course Movement Break**



**How it helps:** Stimulates the basal ganglia and cerebellum for coordination and self-regulation.

# Try: Label How You're Feeling



**How it helps:** Calms the amygdala and builds emotional vocabulary and awareness.

# **Try: Belly Breathing Together**



**How it helps:** Strengthens co-regulation and vagus nerve activation.

## **Try: Body Scan at Bedtime**



How it helps: Activates the Default Mode Network and mindfulness.

## Try: Red Light, Green Light Game



How it helps: Builds impulse control and prefrontal cortex development.

## **Try: Journal or Draw About Your Day**



**How it helps:** Encourages reflection and activates the Default Mode Network.

# Try: Hum or Sing a Favorite Song



**How it helps:** Stimulates the vagus nerve and promotes relaxation.

## Try: Play a Turn-Taking Game



How it helps: Supports social connection and builds patience.

## **Try: Quiet Time After Lunch**



**How it helps:** Encourages self-reflection and gives the brain time to recharge.

#### **Try: Stretch Before a Test**



**How it helps:** Reduces physical tension and helps the hypothalamus restore balance.