# Sleep Hygiene

### Sleep

 a condition of body and mind that typically <u>recurs</u> for several hours every night, in which the eyes are closed, the postural muscles relaxed, the activity of the brain altered, and <u>consciousness</u> of the <u>surroundings</u> practically suspended.



## Hygiene

 conditions or practices <u>conducive</u> to maintaining health and preventing disease, especially through cleanliness.



### https://youtu.be/ritwlNtHNrY

"If you're going to wake up and do your best work – the most challenging, inspired work you've ever done – you need to wake up rested," said James. "Sleep is key to both my physical and mental routine, and Calm helps me get the sleep I need."



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How much do you get? Why is it important?



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# Why we need to **SLEEP**

#### You'll FEEL better

Sleep restores our energy, fights off illness and fatigue by strengthening our immune system. Better sleep produces a more positive mood

#### You'll LOOK better Too little sleep leads to lackluster and wrinkleprone skin.

#### You'll **BEHAVE** better

We're grumpier, snappier and have less patience when we've not had enough sleep.

#### You'll THINK better

Lack of sleep causes changes to the way our brains function in areas of impulse control and decision making.

#### You'll PERFORM better

Losing sleep erodes concentration and problem-solving ability. Each hour of sleep lost per night is associated with a temporary of loss of 1 IQ point. Follow these tips to establish healthy sleep habits:

Set a bedtime that is early enough for you to get at least 7-8 hours of sleep. Maintain a sleep diary : Track your sleep times and activities before going to bed to identify what works well and what hinders a good night's sleep.

# Quick sleep

tips

**Schedule worry time**: it can be helpful and even fun to have a worry time earlier in the day to talk about and share fears and concerns

If you don't fall asleep after 20 minutes, get out of bed. Go **do a quiet** activity without a lot of light exposure. It is especially important to **not get** on electronics. Perhaps try a deep breathing technique

**Relaxation techniques:** Visualizing relaxing scenes, such as the beach or vacations, along with slow abdominal breathing, can help us become calm and ready for sleep.

**Security objects** : Dolls, soft toys, and blankets can help transition to a feeling of security and safety in bed.



### Other useful resources

- **Progressive Muscle Relaxation:** A video to try with your mum or on your own ; PMR works in part by helping to counteract a normal reaction to stress known as the <u>flight-or-fight response</u>. Relaxation techniques, including PMR, have the reverse effect on the body, eliciting the <u>relaxation response</u>, lowering heart rate, calming the mind, and reducing bodily tension. PMR also can help a person become more aware of how their physical stress may be contributing to their emotional state. By relaxing the body, a person may be able to let go of anxious thoughts and feelings.
- Video: Progressive Muscle Relaxation Training YouTube
- Square Breathing Technique for Grounding yourself when feeling worried :
- Square Breathing Guided YouTube
- Mindful Breathing : 3 minutes of guided breathing : <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SEfs5TJZ6Nk</u>
- **CALM :** have a look through this page.
- <u>Calm YouTube</u>