

#### Star Breathing

Start at any "Breathe in" side, hold your breath at the point, then breathe out. Keep going until you've gone around the whole star.



### **Guided Meditation: The Balloon**

This guided meditation brings a visual component to a very simple deep breathing exercise. You can do this standing or seated.

- 1. Relax your body and begin to take deep inhales and slow exhales through the nose.
- 2. Start to take a slow, deep breath to fill your belly up with air, as if you're trying to blow up a big balloon. Expand your belly as much as you can.
- 3. Slowly let the air out of the balloon (through the nose) as you release the breath from the belly.
- 4. Encourage your kids to feel their entire body relax each time they exhale, each time air is slowly being released from the balloon. You can even make a "hissing" noise to encourage them to slow down the exhale even more, "Like letting air out of the balloon."
- 5. Continue for several minutes.



# Coping Skills Wheel

## 9 Ways to Handle Big Emotions



### Muscle Relaxation: Spaghetti Noodle

This exercise is a fun way of guiding children through muscle relaxation techniques.

- 1. Imagine you are a spaghetti noodle before it goes in the pot of hot water. What does it look like?
- 2. Tense up and squeeze all your muscles, stay straight like a noodle!
- 3. Now imagine you're in the pot of hot water. What does the noodle look like now?
- 4. Relax your muscles so you look like a cooked noodle.
- 5. Repeat several times.



Grounding Exercise: 5 Senses

Name 5 things you can see

Name **4** things you can feel

Name 3 things you can hear

Name **2** things you can smell

Name 1 thing you can taste

