

My Mental Health Cues

This activity is meant to help you recognize when it's time to care for your mental health and reach out for support. It includes examples of ways you might think, feel, and act when your mental health is good vs. when it isn't, and some strategies that may support your mental health. Note the examples that fit for you and feel free to add ideas that are uniquely your own. Everyone's cues and strategies are different!

When my mental health is good	When I'm struggling with my mental health	My go-to strategies for good mental health
I think Example: • Generally positive thoughts about myself as a person • Notice both disappointments and good things in my life	I think Example: • Think negative thoughts about myself, my life, the world, the future • Blame myself for everything	Example: • Deep breathing • Listening to music • Writing in a journal • Going for a walk • Talking to a friend
I feel Example: • Generally happy and content • Look forward to things in my life • Have energy to do what I need to do in my day	I feel Example: • Nothing seems fun • Very unhappy, worried, guilty, fearful, irritable, sad, numb, or angry • Headaches, stomach aches, general aches and pains	
l act Example: • Talk to and spend time with my friends • Can manage my schoolwork • Can handle everyday challenges	l act Example: • Avoid school, people, and activities I usually enjoy • Sleeping and eating habits are off • Don't do as well at school as usual	V ₁ V ₁
		If your go-to strategies are not meeting your needs, speak to a trusted adult to see if getting help might be a good idea. You can also speak to a counsellor at Kids Help Phone by calling 1-800-668-6868 or texting "CONNECT" to 686868.

