Refer to *Introduction to Mindfulness* at the beginning of this book for more information and tips on Mindfulness practice.

Mindfulness

Finger Surf

- Teacher guides pupils through the following mindfulness practice, using the script below.

Holding up the left hand with palm facing you, spread your fingers out like a starfish. Look at the middle of your starfish hand. Listen to your breathing, coming in... and going out... all by itself

Shhh... (whispering) When you are still and quiet, you can hear your body breathing (pause to allow pupils to focus on breathing).

Put Peter Pointer *(index finger)* from your other hand beside the thumb of your starfish hand *(demonstrate placing pointed index finger at the edge of the wrist under the thumb).*

Breathing in, Peter Pointer moves up the side of the thumb to the very top, nice and slowly, just like a feather. Barely touching the skin... like a gentle tickle...

When Peter Pointer is at the top of the thumb, we breathe out while he goes down the other side of the thumb, nice and slowly...gently like a feather...

Now let's keep him going, taking a breath in as he moves slowly and gently up the edge of the finger... then breathing out as he moves down the other edge, barely touching the skin...

- ☆ Continue across all fingers, breathing in when moving the index finger up and breathing out when moving it down.
- At the end of the pinky finger, reverse the direction and continue moving in the same way, all the way back to the thumb.
- $\stackrel{\text{\tiny them}}{\to}$ Repeat on the other hand.

Irish Heart

Foundation

To finish, allow hands rest on the lap. Pause, breathe normally and smile.

Additional printable and interactive resources to support these activities are available online at www.lrishHeart.ie

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Mindfulness

Learning across the Curriculum

Finger Surf

This Bizzy Break can be used as a starting point to explore **feelings and emotions**. You might like to try the below activities.

Visual Arts

colour Strand Unit: Looking and responding

Strand: Paint and

 Creating a whole-class 'happy hand' collage (trace outline of hands and decorate with things that make us happy).

SPHE

Strand: Myself Strand Unit: Growing and changing

• Acting out and guessing different emotions through charades.

Teddy Tap

This Bizzy Break can be used as a starting point to explore **parts of the body**. You might like to try the below activities.



Strand: Living things Strand Unit: Myself

 Identifying parts of the body through stories, images or song.



Strand: Myself **Strand Unit:** Growing and changing

• Discussing ways to calm our minds when we are worried or upset.



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Additional printable and interactive resources to support these activities are available online at www.lrishHeart.ie