

Practice #1 - Neil Pearson

Seated

Breath awareness -Notice

the sensations of air coming in and out of nose the sound of the air coming in, and the sound of it going out the smoothness or edginess of the sound the pace of the air from the beginning to the end of the inhale the pace of the air from the beginning to the end of the exhale the length of your inhale and the length of the exhale where your body moves as you breathe in where your body moves as you breathe out movement on the right side of your body and on the left whether your spine, your shoulders, your neck, your hips move as you breathe in whether your spine, your shoulders, your neck, your hips move as you breathe out the areas of your body that tend to be tense - do those areas change as you breathe in - do those areas change as you breathe out any areas of discomfort or pain - do those areas change as you breathe in - do those areas change as you breathe out Make your breath a little longer Make your breath a little smoother - the sound, how your body moves, ... Make your breath a little calmer Expand the sensations of length, and smoothness, and calm to your body. Expand the sensations of length, and smoothness and calm to your mind. Expand the sensations of length, and smoothness and calm to your spirit. Take these sensations into this practice. Coordinate with breath - breathe out - move away from neutral; breathe in move back to centre - do 5-6 reps of each (side) Neck rotation Neck side bend Neck flexion Cross-legged seated spine rotation Cross-legged seated spine flexion Breathe in - Raise one arm to sky, breathe out - side bend to opposite side, breathe in - back to neutral, breathe out - arms comes down (repeat side to side for 6 breaths) Dandasana - lengthen breath, lengthen legs, lengthen spine - create some increased energy Seated forward bend - "find the place where you feel your body can let go - where you feel safe - where you know you will not regret it later" Inclined plank - Purvottanasana - modified with hips remaining on mat Repeat with option to use arms to pull forward, and option to lift hips in back bend Repeat with awareness of the just right amount of smoothness and calmness in breath, body, mind and spirit

Come to belly

lengthen legs, spine and breath

position for cobra, and as inhale lift up towards cobra just a bit, and come down

on exhale, - then a little more with each breath in

Child's pose - awareness of breath - longer, calmer, smoother SNOWCA

Prone, single leg raise, alternate sides with each breath Double leg raise with breath Child's pose - awareness of breath - longer, calmer, smoother Sphinx - awareness of breath - longer.calmer, smoother Child's pose Pigeon - choice of modification Child's pose - awareness of breath - longer, calmer, smoother Locust with hands clasped behind lower back Child's pose Standing - - awareness of breath - longer, calmer, smoother awareness of body feet on floor, soft toes, engaged legs, lower belly drawing in, lower ribs drawing in, heart lifting, shouder blades back and down, front of neck drawing towards back, spine lengthening notice effort engage all of these more than need to so you feel propped let the engagement go so you feel collapsed breathe in prop up breathe out, collapse with each breath, prop a little less, and collapse a little less until you find that just right place in the middle Then take that just right amount of effort to your breath, and to your mind. Forward bend Arms raised back bend Step back to warrior I - each side Find the just right effort and letting go position again, with longer, calmer, smoother breath. Step back to warrior 2 Find the just right effort and letting go position again, with longer, calmer, smoother breath. Step back to exalted warrior Find the just right effort and letting go position again, with longer, calmer, smoother breath. Sun salutations - take them through 6 or so each side each time coming back to tadasana, finding effort/letting go and long, calm, smooth breath Standing balance - tree Come down to back Pull knees to chest Bridge Reclined twist Savasana