WORD OF THE YEAR EXERCISE



This annual word-of-the-year exercise can help you reflect on your values, intentions, and hopes for the new year. Think of it as the antiresolution resolution. Instead of setting a specific goal, **choose a word that captures the mind-set you want to adopt this next year;** a word that will nudge you toward positive change whenever you think of it. To better understand the word-of-the-year exercise, it helps to know what it is not. It **should not be** a broad resolution (eat healthy), a specific action (start exercise program) or a goal (lose 20 pounds). Instead, **choose a single word that reflects how you want to live in this upcoming year.**



Your word should reflect your values and intention - your vision for what well-being means to you and the areas of your life that need attention.

As you think back on this past year, what is one thing that is standing out in your mind?

Keep playing that reel of your past year and even before... what are other images that are emerging?

Reviewing those images, jot some of them down.

What word(s) of reflection might encompass those images?

Continuing your journey by reflecting...

What did you love about the last year?

What would you like to change about the last year?

What are some things you should let go of?

What would you like to change about yourself in the upcoming year?

What word(s) of change might encompass your thoughts?

WORDS OF REFLECTION: awareness, awe, breathe, pause, reset, gratitude, resilience, optimism, focus



Let's brainstorm!.

What are some things you love and are passionate about?

What do you want to have more of in your life?

What word(s) might connect to where you have been?

Time to do some sorting...Look at some of your notes and words you have jotted down so far.

What are some themes that are emerging?

What do you want to pay particular attention to?

What do you want to have more in your life this next year?

What word(s) may be bring clarity to those thoughts?

Narrow it down...

Now that you have put some thought to this, what do you want to have more of in your life?

What is seeming to be your focus word for this next year?

Try it on for size – see if it fits. If after a bit it doesn't feel right, come back here and review this journey.

Let's stay <u>connected</u> !! My word(s) connect.spark.ignite ASA Facilitation is about fostering connections that ignite selfunderstanding so that you can recognize and harness your potential to shape the change you seek in yourself and the world.

WORDS OF CONNECTION:

relate, reconnect, experience, balance, engage, cherish, comfort, listen

WORDS OF CLARITY:

experience, determined, awaken, mindful, worthy, calm, journey, humble

WORDS OF FOCUS:

triumphant, unstoppable, fearless, motivated, healthy, determined, renew

Be well. Be inspired. Be true to YOU!