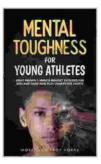
# 8 Proven Minute Mindset Exercises for Kids and Teens Who Play Competitive

In the competitive world of sports, young athletes often face a range of mental challenges that can impact their performance and enjoyment of the game. From pre-game jitters to post-game disappointment, it's essential for kids and teens to develop a strong mindset that allows them to overcome obstacles and thrive under pressure.



Mental Toughness For Young Athletes: Eight Proven 5-Minute Mindset Exercises For Kids And Teens Who Play Competitive Sports by Troy Horne

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#### The Power of Minute Mindset Exercises

Minute mindset exercises are short, focused activities that can be done quickly and easily, even in the midst of a busy sports schedule. These exercises are designed to help young athletes identify and challenge negative thoughts, develop positive self-talk, and build resilience. By incorporating these exercises into their daily routine, kids and teens can improve their mental game and unlock their full potential.

#### 8 Proven Minute Mindset Exercises

#### 1. Gratitude Journaling

Have your young athlete take a few minutes each day to write down three things they are grateful for. This practice helps to shift their focus away from negative thoughts and towards the positive aspects of their life and sport.

#### 2. Positive Affirmations

Encourage your young athlete to repeat positive affirmations to themselves, such as "I am a confident and capable athlete" or "I can overcome any challenge." Positive affirmations help to build self-belief and reduce self-doubt.

#### 3. Visualization

Have your young athlete close their eyes and visualize themselves performing at their best. Encourage them to imagine themselves overcoming challenges and achieving their goals. Visualization helps to build confidence and reduce performance anxiety.

#### 4. Deep Breathing

Teach your young athlete a simple deep breathing exercise. Ask them to inhale slowly and deeply through their nose for four counts, hold their breath for seven counts, and then exhale slowly and completely through their mouth for eight counts. Deep breathing helps to calm the nervous system and reduce stress.

#### 5. Positive Self-Talk

Encourage your young athlete to challenge negative thoughts and replace them with positive ones. Ask them to pay attention to their inner voice and to make a conscious effort to speak kindly to themselves. Positive self-talk helps to build self-esteem and reduce self-criticism.

#### 6. Goal Setting

Help your young athlete to set realistic and achievable goals. Encourage them to break down their goals into smaller, more manageable steps. Goal setting helps to provide direction and motivation.

#### 7. Mindfulness

Teach your young athlete mindfulness techniques, such as paying attention to their breath or noticing their surroundings without judgment. Mindfulness helps to reduce stress, improve focus, and increase self-awareness.

#### 8. Growth Mindset

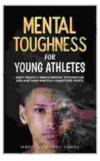
Encourage your young athlete to adopt a growth mindset, where they believe that their abilities can be developed through hard work and effort. A growth mindset helps to reduce the fear of failure and promotes resilience.

# Incorporating Minute Mindset Exercises into Your Young Athlete's Routine

The key to success with minute mindset exercises is consistency. Encourage your young athlete to make these exercises a regular part of their daily routine. Even a few minutes of practice each day can make a big difference.

- 1. Set aside a specific time each day for your young athlete to practice their minute mindset exercises.
- 2. Make it fun!
- 3. Encourage your young athlete to track their progress and celebrate their successes.

By incorporating these proven minute mindset exercises into their daily routine, kids and teens who play competitive sports can develop a winning mindset that will help them to overcome challenges, achieve their goals, and enjoy the game to the fullest. Remember, a strong mindset is just as important as physical skills in the competitive world of sports.



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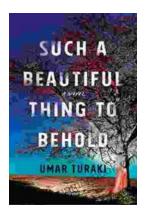
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