Kripalu Yoga in the Schools Curriculum Overview Modules I–III at a Glance

Module 1: Fundamentals of Yoga for Self-Management

Lessons 1–8

<u>Summary</u>

- I. Goals
 - Understand the relevance of self-management—the ability to skillfully manage thoughts, feelings, sensations, and behaviors
 - Learn mind-body techniques for managing stress
 - Cultivate Self-Observation Without Judgment
 - Learn to apply self-management techniques in daily life

II. Didactic Content

Introduction to the concepts of

- The Aspects of Experience (physical body, breath, thoughts, emotions, and wisdom/intuition)
- Self-awareness and stress management
- Self-Observation Without Judgment
- Basic physiology of the nervous system
- Physiology of breathing techniques
- Basic physiology of stress

III. Experiential Activities

• Hands-on activities to reinforce didactic content, create community, and engage students in the learning process.

IV. Physical Yoga Practice

• Instruction of foundational yoga postures and breathing techniques that focus on sensations, thoughts, and feelings as they arise in the present moment

Lesson-by-Lesson Overview

Lesson 1: Introduction and Overview

| Learning Goals | Didactic Content | Experiential Activities | Yoga Poses |
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| Gain a context and overview of the program Start to learn the concepts of building community and safe space Are introduced to the definition of yoga and basic yoga philosophy for the program Begin to bring awareness to the physical and breath bodies | Physiology and benefits of Letting-Go Breath Physiology and benefits of nose breathing Physiology and benefits of belly breathing | Classroom Agreements Student interviews Hula-Hoop circle game | Fundamentals of Half Sun Salutation (time permitting) Mountain Forward Fold Jackknife Chair |

Lesson 2: Aspects of Experience

| Learning Goals | Didactic Content | Experiential Activities | Yoga Poses |
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| Begin to bring their awareness to the different Aspects of Experience (body, breath, thoughts, emotions, and wisdom/intuition) Begin to develop awareness of their physical bodies and breath Experience new foundational yoga postures | Aspects of Experience Physical body Breath Thoughts Emotions Wisdom/Intuition Physiology and benefits of ribcage breathing Physiology and benefits of chest breathing | PowerPoint presentation Student photos | Fundamentals of Mountain Half Sun Salutation Fundamentals of Plank Fundamentals of Cobra Fundamentals of Child Fundamentals of Table Cat Push-Ups Fundamentals of Supine Twist |

Lesson 3: Yoga and Stress

| Learning Goals | Didactic Content | Experiential Activities | Yoga Poses |
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| Learn basic information about the functions of the nervous system Gain an introductory understanding of the stress and relaxation responses Experience new foundational yoga postures Learn to use tools for dealing with stress | Stress response (fight, flight, or freeze) vs. relaxation response (rest, digest, and heal) Physiology and benefits of Three- Part Breathing | Discussion of yoga's effects on stress Name tag exercise | Table Fundamentals of Down Dog Fundamentals of Low Lunge Fundamentals of High Lunge Fundamentals of Triangle with block Child Fundamentals of Bicycle Crunches Knees to Chest |

Lesson 4: Observing Experience as It Is

| Learning Goals | Didactic Content | Experiential Activities | Yoga Poses |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Are introduced to the concept of observing and accepting experience as it is Experience a heating/activating yoga sequence | Present moment awareness Awareness of Aspects of Experience Physiology and benefits of Alternate-Nostril Breath Self-compassion | Joint openers balancing block on head | Full Sun Salutation with breath awareness Fundamentals of Standing Half-Moon Fundamentals of Standing Forward Fold with hands clasped Fundamentals of Tree Dead Bug Crunch Dead Bug Crunch with twist Knees to Chest |

Lesson 5: Sticking Through Stressful Experiences

| Learning Goals | Didactic Content | Experiential Activities | Yoga Poses |
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| Explore the idea that they can choose how to respond to stress Identify their habitual responses to stress Practice observing and accepting stressful experiences as they are Practice breathing techniques to focus and quiet the mind | Options for responding to stress Introduction to "sticking with stress" Physiology and benefits of Ocean Breath | • Yogi Twisters | Full Sun Salutation with five-breath hold of Plank and Chair Fundamentals of Warrior I Flying Warrior I Fundamentals of Warrior II Triangle Child Supine Twist |

Lesson 6: Being at Your Best

| Learning Goals | Didactic Content | Experiential Activities | Yoga Poses |
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| Practice breathing and moving in ways that promote mind-body integration and stress management | Being at your best through cross-body movement and breathing Balancing the sides of the brain Integrating mind and body Balancing stress vs. relaxation responses | Slap Slap Clap Clap Tap Tap (after Relaxation and Integration) | Down Dog Flying Pigeon Fundamentals of Pigeon Fundamentals of Eagle Supine Integrative Twist |

Lesson 7: Self-Care to De-stress

| Learning Goals | Didactic Content | Experiential Activities | Yoga Poses |
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| Explore the concepts of letting go, allowing, and relaxing into the present moment Gain tools to relax the body and calm the mind Review breathing techniques and experience new yoga postures for self-care | Experience the effects of self-care practices Explore the concepts of letting go, allowing, and relaxing into the present moment | Check-in and checkout (first at the beginning of class, then repeat after Relaxation and Integration) | Spinal Rock Fundamentals of Seated Boat Fundamentals of Boat Crunches Fundamentals of Rhythmic Bridge Fundamentals of Supported Bridge Fundamentals of Legs Up the Wall Fundamentals of Supine Bound Angle at the wall Fundamentals of Shoulderstand at the wall Knees to Chest Supine Twist |

Lesson 8: From Stressed to Best – Review of Module 1

| Learning Goals | Didactic Content | Experiential Activities | Yoga Poses |
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| Revisit breathing techniques and concepts from throughout the module Reinforce the lessons of Module 1 in preparation for Module 2 Achieve a sense of closure from Module 1 (for those only receiving one module) | Review of major themes of Module 1 Health and behavioral benefits of yoga Aspects of Experience | Discussion: How have students noticed yoga impacting their lives? How will you incorporate yoga into your life? | Full Sun Salutation Warrior I Warrior II Triangle Pigeon Walking Planks Bridge Supported Bridge Supported Bridge with legs in the air Supine Twist with legs crossed |

Module 2: The Role of the Physical Body in Self-Management *Lessons 9–16*

Module 2 Summary

I. Goals

- Deepen understanding of self-management—the ability to skillfully manage thoughts, emotions, sensations, and behavior
- Reinforce mind-body techniques for managing stress
- Continue to cultivate Self-Observation without Judgment
- Practice self-management techniques in daily life

II. Didactic Content

- Introducing and Exploring Refilling the Well and Riding the Wave
- Physiology of yoga postures
- Yoga postures and breathing practices to regulate the nervous system
- Reinforcement of the concepts of self-management, self-awareness, and stress management
- Reinforcement of Self-Observation Without Judgment
- Introduction to optimal functioning
- Exploration of attention training on the mat and in daily life
- Exploration of the edge

III. Experiential Activities

• Hands-on activities to reinforce didactic content, create community, and engage students in the learning process

IV. Physical Yoga Practice

- Reinforcement of foundational yoga postures and breathing techniques
- Introduction to more advanced yoga postures with attention to their physiological effects
- Deepened awareness of present-moment sensations, thoughts, and feelings as they arise

Lesson-by-Lesson Overview

Lesson 9: Recap of Module 1/Aspects of Experience

| Learning Goals | Didactic Content | Experiential Activities | Yoga Poses |
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| Review the Aspects of Experience (physical, breath, emotional, mental, and wisdom/intuitive) discussed in Module 1 Explicitly identify categories of yoga poses (standing, forward folds, backbends, balances, twists, restorative, and inversions) | Review concepts and practices from Module 1 In-depth review of the Aspects of Experience Introduce categories of yoga poses and their general benefits Basic anatomy | • Yoga Anatomy Game | Sun Salutation Warrior I Warrior II Triangle Chair Twisting Chair Pulsing Cobra Tree Fundamentals of Forward Fold with strap Eagle crunches Shoulderstand Yogi's Choice Legs Up the Wall Supine Bound Angle at the wall |

Lesson 10: Riding the Wave Part I – Breathe, Relax, Feel, Watch, and Allow (Standing Poses)

| Learning Goals | Didactic Content | Experiential Activities | Yoga Poses |
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| Become familiar with the concept of Riding the Wave to deal skillfully with challenging experiences Are introduced to the five steps of Riding the Wave: Breathe, Relax, Feel, Watch, and Allow Have an experience of Riding the Wave while holding a challenging yoga posture for two minutes Practice BRFWA through a series of standing postures | Introduction to Riding the Wave Physiology and benefits of standing poses | Two-minute Chair (incorporated into yoga flow) Yogi's Choice (incorporated into yoga flow) | Sun Salutation Warrior I Warrior II Fundamentals of Reverse Warrior Fundamentals of Lateral Angle Yoga Hops Two-minute Chair with eyes closed Standing Forward Fold Fundamentals of Standing Quad Stretch Mountain Fundamentals of Sphinx Child Yogi's Choice |

Lesson 11: Riding the Wave Part II – Self-Observation Without Judgment (Balancing Poses)

| Learning Goals | Didactic Content | Experiential Activities | Yoga Poses |
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| Learn to train attention through balancing poses Are introduced to ways in which attention training can be applied in daily life Revisit the concept of Self-Observation Without Judgment | Attention training Review Self-Observation Without Judgment in yoga and in daily life Physiology of balancing poses | Tree with focal point comparison | Fundamentals Warrior III Fundamentals of Standing Splits Fundamentals of Dancer Fundamentals of Crow Fundamentals of Side Plank Seated Boat series Cat and Dog tilt in Seated Boat prep Seated Boat Twisting Boat Side Boat Fundamentals of Belly- Down Boat |

Lesson 12: Riding the Wave Part III: Exploring the Edge (Inversions)

| Learning Goals | Didactic Content | Experiential Activities | Yoga Poses |
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| Explore how yoga postures can facilitate new perspectives Discover how when you turn yourself upside down, you see the world differently Exercise their ability to choose their perspective Explore finding an edge that is appropriate for them Continue to practice BRFWA and Self- Observation Without Judgment | Ways in which inversions offer new perspectives Exploring the Edge Physiology of inversions | Rhythmic breathing (with audio file found on the KYIS Teacher Resources webpage) | Fundamentals of Dolphin Dolphin Push-Ups Fundamentals of Handstand prep at the wall Shoulderstand at the wall Fundamentals of Plow at the wall Knees to Chest Supine Integrative Twist |

Lesson 13: Refilling the Well Part I—Relax and Energize (Forward Folds and Backbends)

| Learning Goals | Didactic Content | Experiential Activities | Yoga Poses |
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| Become familiar with the concept of Refilling the Well to prevent depleting their internal resources Learn how to use calming and activating breaths to regulate the nervous system Learn how to use forward folds and backbends to regulate the nervous system | Refilling the Well Capacity to influence the nervous system through breath and postures Physiology of forward folds Physiology of backbends | • Body tapping | Belly-Down Boat Foot swings Fundamentals of Half- Bow Foot swings Fundamentals of Bow Child Cat/ Dog from Table Standing Forward Fold Child Standing Forward Fold Standing Backbend with hands clasped behind back Standing Forward Fold with hands clasped behind back Fundamentals of Seated Head-to-Knee with strap Supine Twist |

Lesson 14: Refilling the Well Part II: Optimal Functioning (Twists)

| Learning Goals | Didactic Content | Experiential Activities | Yoga Poses |
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| Develop an understanding of optimal functioning states (cognitive, physical, and emotional) Explore using breath and movement to facilitate optimal functioning states | Mind-body integration for optimal functioning Physiology and benefits of twists | OK-L hand movements (first at the beginning of class, then repeat after Relaxation and Integration) | Sun Salutation Triangle with block Fundamentals of Revolved Triangle with block Cross-Crawl Fundamentals of Cow- Face with strap and block Cow-Face Twist Child Supine Integrative Twist |

Lesson 15: Refilling the Well Part III – Take Time to Unwind (Restorative Poses)

| Learning Goals | Didactic Content | Experiential Activities | Yoga Poses |
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| Learn the physiology of restorative poses and how they can be used to promote self-care Explore the value of downtime to recharge | Refilling the Well Physiology and benefits of restorative poses | Stream-of-consciousness journaling (first at the beginning, then repeat after Relaxation and Integration) | Rhythmic Bridge Fundamentals of Reclined Hamstring Stretch with strap Fundamentals of Reclined Figure-Four Stretch Fundamentals of Supported Shoulderstand with strap Supine Integrative Twist |

Lesson 16: Closure (for those only receiving Modules 1 and 2)

| Learning Goals | Didactic Content | Experiential Activities | Yoga Poses |
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| Deepen their sense of community with fellow participants through partner and group experiences Cultivate deep listening and communication skills Reflect on their experience of the program Explore their relationship to the practices of yoga moving forward | Reflecting back to first class and considering lessons learned that will stick going forward Co-listening: The practice of conscious communication with an emphasis on nonjudgmental awareness for the speaker and developing active listening skills Community-building Completion and closure of the yoga program | Co-listening with warm- up partner: How has your experience in yoga been, and what are you going to take away from this experience? Student reflection evaluation of program (template located on the KYIS Teacher Resources webpage) | Collaborative yoga flow (poses TBD) Circular yoga flow Tree with palms touching at shoulder height Crane Standing Big Toe Warrior I with arms reaching up Warrior III with arms to the center of the circle or on neighbor's low back Group Chair (optional) |

Lesson 16: Integration of Module 2 (for those continuing on to Module 3)

| Learning Goals | Didactic Content | Experiential Activities | Yoga Poses |
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| Review the seven categories of yoga postures and their benefits Experience a yoga class integrating poses from all seven categories Practice both Riding the Wave and Refilling the Well through invigorating and relaxing yoga poses | Review of Riding the Wave and Refilling the Well Review of seven categories of yoga poses and their benefits | Zim Zam Zoom with attention to transitions Name that Category | Warrior I Warrior III Standing Splits Low Lunge Runner's Stretch Knee-Down Twist Yoga Hops Child Shoulderstand Plow Supine Twist Knees to Chest Constructive Rest Pose |

Module 3: Integrating Yoga Skills Into Everyday Life Lessons 17-24

Module 3 Summary

I. Goals

- Cultivate compassion for self and others
- Create and sustain healthier relationships and communities
- Develop an awareness that we are all connected and interdependent
- Increase awareness of inner wisdom/ intuition
- Understand how our thoughts, words, and actions affect ourselves and others

II. Didactic Content

- Integrating yoga skills into everyday life
- Compassion for self and others
- Healthy relationship and community building
- Understanding the relationship between self-awareness, self-management, and self-regulation in creating healthy relationships
- Making decisions from a place of inner wisdom/ intuition

III. Experiential Activities

• Reflective exercises, loving-kindness meditation, peer-to-peer teaching, yogi's choice, student-created sequence, and group discussion and brainstorm

IV. Physical Yoga Practice

- Introduction of pose variations
- Student-taught postures and student-created sequences
- Partner and group yoga flows

Lesson-by-Lesson Overview

Lesson 17: Introduction

| Learning Goals | Didactic Content | Experiential Activities | Yoga Poses |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Introduce themes of Module 3 Compassion for self and others Healthy communities/relationships Interconnectedness Inner wisdom/ intuition Mindful decision-making Personal impact Review concepts of Riding the Wave and Refilling the Well Experiment with choosing their own yoga postures | Review Riding the Wave and Refilling the Well Introduce themes of Module 3 Compassion for self and others Healthy communities/ relationships Interconnectedness Inner wisdom/ intuition Mindful decision- making Personal impact | Brainstorm and group discussion on integrating yoga skills into daily life | During Warm-Up: Eagle Crunches Supine Integrative Twist Standing Half-Moon Fundamentals of Five-Pointed Star Fundamentals of Goddess with "ha" breaths Goddess with Eagle arm circles Goddess side crunches Goddess core- strengthening circles Five Pointed Star Yogi's Choice: Inversion Restorative Twist |

Lesson 18: Compassionate Communication

| Learning Goals | Didactic Content | Experiential Activities | Yoga Poses |
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| Explore how slowing down can help us become more self- aware, more present, and more compassionate Practice techniques for better communication Become more compassionate and nonjudgmental when communicating with others | Accessing self-awareness through slowing down in restorative poses The role of compassionate communication in relationships to self and others | Co-listening (after Relaxation and Integration) utilizing compassionate communication skills | Knees to Chest Reclined Hamstring Stretch with strap Fundamentals of Supine Half-Hero Supine Figure-Four Supine Figure-Four with twist Supine Bound Angle Gentle Bound Angle sit-up Gentle Bound Angle sit-up with twist |

Lesson 19: Personal Impact

| Learning Goals | Didactic Content | Experiential Activities | Yoga Poses |
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| Gain awareness that their thoughts, words, and actions—positive or negative—affect the people they interact with Explore the concept of social awareness Take responsibility for their words and actions | Increasing awareness of how your thoughts, words, and actions affect others Your personal potential to impact the world you live in Introduce the concept of social awareness | Group observation and discussion | Sun Salutation Mountain Standing Backbend Warrior I Warrior II Reverse Warrior Lateral Angle Triangle Yogi's Choice of restorative |

Lesson 20: Mindful Decision-Making

| Learning Goals | Didactic Content | Experiential Activities | Yoga Poses |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Practice pausing and listening to their inner wisdom/ intuition Explore making mindful decisions that are best for themselves, their relationships, and their community | Deepening awareness of inner wisdom/ intuition through self-reflection Making choices that are right for yourself, your relationships, or your community | Decision-making reflection Journaling Yogi's choice and exploring posture variations | Sun Salutation Plank Walking Plank Side Plank with leg variations Warrior I with arm variations Warrior II with arm variations Lateral Angle with arm variations |

Lesson 21: Interconnectedness

| Learning Goals | Didactic Content | Experiential Activities | Yoga Poses |
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| Build trust and connection with other students to deepen a sense of community Practice leaning on and supporting others as a way to experience interdependence and interconnectedness Feel prepared and empowered for peer-to- peer teaching Revisit the experience of practicing compassion for others | Recognizing the interdependence and interconnectedness of relationships and communities Recognizing the resources that exists in social groups and communities Looking beyond peers to build a support system | Peer-to-peer teaching prep | Partner yoga flow: Palm press with shoulder stretch Pike Standing Backbend Warrior III Warrior II Reverse Warrior Tree Elevator Seated Double Boat Seated Twist |

Lesson 22: Healthy Relationships

| Learning Goals | Didactic Content | Experiential Activities | Yoga Poses |
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| Develop their courage and willingness to embrace vulnerability by leading the class through a yoga posture Reinforce their understanding of the benefits of different yoga poses Deepen their sense of community by providing a supportive, respectful, compassionate environment for one another | Practicing compassion and empathy in community through mutual support Cultivating courage in the face of vulnerability Establishing connection as a result of authenticity | • Peer-to-peer teaching | Peer-led class: Tree Cobra/Sphinx Warrior I Warrior II Triangle Down Dog Chair Supine Twist Bridge Shoulderstand Eagle Warrior III Plank |

Lesson 23: Strengthening Your Community

| Learning Goals | Didactic Content | Experiential Activities | Yoga Poses |
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| Develop their courage and willingness to embrace vulnerability by leading the class through a yoga posture Reinforce understanding of the benefits of different yoga poses Deepen their sense of community by providing a supportive, respectful, compassionate environment for one another Have the chance to reflect upon skills learned during the yoga program, such as self-awareness, self- management, decision- making skills, relationship, and social skills | Practicing compassion and empathy in community through mutual support Cultivating courage in the face of vulnerability Establishing connection as a result of mutual respect and support Reflecting back to first class and considering lessons learned that will stick going forward | Peer-to-peer teaching (for those who didn't get the opportunity to teach in Lesson 22) Group discussion about the benefits of the program (time permitting; if not, feel free to carry this over to Lesson 24) | Peer-led class (if all students have already taught, facilitate a student-created yoga sequence) Seated Twist Twisting Chair Boat Bow Standing Forward Fold with hands clasped behind back Child Supported Legs Up the Wall Supported Fish/Bridge Pigeon Handstand Prep Standing Splits |

Lesson 24: Completion

| Learning Goals | Didactic Content | Experiential Activities | Yoga Poses |
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| Deepen their sense of community with fellow participants through partner and group experiences Cultivate deep listening and communication skills Reflect on their experience of the program Explore their relationship to the practices of yoga moving forward | Reflecting back on the yoga program and considering lessons learned that will stick going forward Completion and closure of the yoga program | Co-listening with warm-up partner: How has your experience in yoga been, and what are you going to take away from this experience? Student reflection evaluation of program (template located on the KYIS Teacher Resources webpage) | Student-created yoga sequence Poses TBD by students and teacher Circular yoga flow: Tree with palms together at shoulder height Crane Standing Big Toe Warrior I Warrior II with arms to the center of the circle or on neighbor's low back Repeat on opposite leg Group Chair (optional) |