

The Spirit of Resistance

“How To” Guide for Parents

Spirit of Resistance curricula exist to help you advance and celebrate our national shared values and principles in your home.

As parents, we are the first and primary teachers of our children. That means we are the ones chiefly responsible for creating the next generation of citizens who will defend and preserve those values and principles. There was a time when our entire society would support us in that endeavor. That time is not now.

Our children are barraged daily with false narratives and damaging ideologies which separate them from their country and from each other. This is coming from all sides of our society. It may be happening in your child’s classroom, or it may not be. But it doesn’t matter. As parents, the obligation is ours. A good teacher does not alleviate us of that obligation. Teachers exist to support parents in the development of their children, not the other way around.

This material will enable you to embrace that obligation with confidence. It doesn’t matter what experience or educational background you have. It is designed to be used effectively by anyone.

Our lessons (which we call “Engagements”) address the false narratives and destructive ideologies being advanced throughout our society. Engagements will show you what is being advanced, and give you the tools to counter it. Please see the [Course Details](#) page and [Engagement Design](#) for more info.

On the following page, you will find a set of options for how to use *Spirit of Resistance* Engagements with your child. They are only suggestions.

They may not work for you exactly as written. Maybe you use a different option every time. Maybe you pick and choose a few strategies from each, to create your own personalized program.

It truly doesn’t matter how you use this material. We don’t even care. Whatever way you decide to use it, it just works. You know your child best. You know how to teach them. We’re just here to help.

Ways You Can Use *The Spirit of Resistance*

There are dozens of possible ways to use our Engagements. Below you will find some suggestions. However, we urge you to simply use them in the way that is best for you and your child.

TEACHER OPTION

You, the parent, completes the Engagement independently first. Then, you teach it to your child in whatever manner you choose. You can teach it to them directly, or you can teach it more casually and informally (for example, on car rides, at the dinner table, etc.). You take complete control over how your child learns the information. There are many reasons why you might choose this option. Perhaps you want to exercise your parental authority as the primary teacher of your child, and don't want to relinquish that authority to anyone else. Perhaps you feel your child will be resistant, and you will need you to guide the instruction. Perhaps you just want to spend quality time with you child bonding over the things that matter.

TEAM OPTION

Complete the Engagement together with your child. Make it a team effort. Do it over a series of days, a little at a time if you like. Pause after each segment, read and discuss documents together, and wrestle with the ideas. Talk through those things that confuse you, or that captivate and inspire you. Make it a unique and special experience learning the truth about these topics together.

SENECA'S OPTION

You and your child complete the Engagement independently. Then, have THEM teach it to YOU. Research has shown one of the best ways to truly learn something is to teach it. Have your child summarize the information and give you their opinions. What do they think? What did they learn that they didn't know before? Choose one of the primary sources and have them explain it to you in their own words. Ask them the questions from the [Discussion Guide](#). Since you also completed the Engagement, your discussions with your child will be deeper and more meaningful. You will be able to correct misunderstandings, ask follow-up questions, help them make connections, etc. Most importantly, you will be spending time together, talking about things that matter and bonding over the things that will shape their lives.

Docendo discimus - by teaching, we learn (Seneca, Roman philosopher, circa. 60 AD)

INDEPENDENT OPTION

We know your time is often short, and torn between many equally important priorities. You may not have the time to complete Engagements yourself. Don't worry. Engagements are effective and powerful, and are written in such a way that your child can complete them entirely on their own. They will still do their job of instilling our national shared values and principles. If you can, try to follow up with your child after they complete an Engagement independently. Our instruction is awesome, but you should not completely relinquish your parental authority to anyone, not even to us. If possible, just have your child share with you what they learned. We provide you with an in-depth set of material in the [Discussion Guides](#) to facilitate this. These come with questions, expected responses, explanation of concepts, and analysis.