

The Spirit of Resistance

“How To” Guide for Parents

Spirit of Resistance curricula exist to help you reclaim authority over how your child is educated. Classroom teaching is not a perfect science. Particularly in history classes, information is sometimes biased to lead students to arrive at predetermined conclusions. Important facts are excluded that would contradict the narrative being advanced. The puzzle pieces of complex events are often forced together in such a way as to create a false or misleading picture.

This isn't necessarily being done intentionally, or maliciously. Sometimes it is. But sometimes it happens just because it's natural. Even the best teachers sometimes fall into it.

Our personal beliefs, values, and principles are present in everything we say or do. Therefore, when someone is in any kind of teaching or mentoring position, that person's particular set of beliefs and values will be transmitted in their teaching. It is inevitable. It WILL happen, whether it is intended or not.

Whether it is being done intentionally or not, it is still our responsibility as parents to be aware of it and combat it when necessary.

If a teacher's set of beliefs, values, and principles do not align with what we, as parents, are trying to instill in our children, then we must mitigate it in some way. The only other option is to relinquish our parental authority, to turn it over to the teacher, and allow our children to be led down whatever path the teacher wishes. That, of course, is no option at all. Good teachers don't expect you to do that.

The *Spirit of Resistance* will help you exercise control over your child's education.

Our lessons (which we call “Engagements”) address the false narratives and destructive ideologies being advanced throughout our society and in many of the nation's classrooms. Our 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.

Maybe they don't work for you exactly as written. Perhaps you pick few strategies from each to create your own personalized program. That's great. That's exactly what we hope you'll do.

You know your child best. You got this. We're just here to help.

Ways You Can Use *The Spirit of Resistance*

There are dozens of possible ways to use these Engagements. Below you will find some suggestions. However, we urge you to simply use them in whatever way is best for you and your child. Our entire “raison d'être” (reason for being) is to bring parents and children together in the learning experience.

TEACHER OPTION

You, the parent, completes the Engagement independently first. Then, you teach it to your child. There are many reasons why you might choose this option. Perhaps you want to maintain your parental authority as the primary teacher of your child. Perhaps you know your child is going to be resistant, that you will get some pushback initially. How you teach the Engagement is entirely up to you. You know what your child will respond to best. You can teach it to them directly or you can share what you learned casually and informally (for example, on car rides, at the dinner table, etc.). Whatever works best for you and your child. Of course, our *Instructional Support Line* is always available to you if you need help, as well as the *Discussion Guide* we provide with each Engagement.

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. Stop at the indicated spots; read and discuss the documents together, and wrestle with ideas. Talk through those things that confuse you, 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 that one of the best ways to truly learn something is to teach it. Ask your child to summarize the lesson, 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. Or, use the questions we provide in the *Discussion Guide* that accompanies each Engagement. Since you have also completed the Engagement, your discussions with your child will be deeper and more meaningful. You are 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

A student can complete these Engagements entirely on their own. They are written in such a way as to make that possible. We know your time is often short and torn between multiple, equally important priorities. If you simply do not have the time to be personally involved in a particular Engagement, this option is better than nothing at all. However, always remember that you are your child's first and most essential teacher. Do not relinquish that authority to anyone, not even to us. If you are going to use this option, be sure to follow up. Have your child share with you what they learned. We provide you with an in-depth set of material in the *Discussion Guide* for each Engagement to facilitate this. These come with questions, expected responses, explanation of concepts, and analysis.