





# **Overview**

We are excited to focus on Courage this month! One way to think about Courage is "choosing what is helpful, right, and kind even when it is hard or scary."

Courage is 1 of 3 traits we will focus on throughout the year that helps students Be Strong. Throughout the school, students will be developing skills like focusing, organizing, and goal-setting.

# In The Classroom

Following directions can be challenging for voung students! An important way we will practice Courage in Kindergarten this month is by learning to follow directions. Whole Body Listening is foundational for following directions. When we listen with our whole selves, following directions (and practicing Courage) becomes much easier!

### **Steps for Whole Body Listening:**

- 1. Eyes are watching (point to your eyes)
- 2. Ears are listening (cup your ears)
- 3. Brain is focused (point to your brain)
- 4. Heart is caring (put your hand on your heart)

### **Strategies for Following Directions:**

- 1. Pay attention to directions with Whole Body Listening
- 2. Ask questions if you are confused
- 3. Do what you are asked to do the first time





Eyes are watching

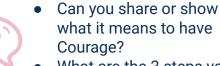
Ears are listening



Brain is focused

Heart is caring

# **Conversation Starters**



What are the 3 steps you use to follow directions?







Have some fun connecting as a family this month while practicing Courage. Here are 3 "PurposeFull Pursuits" for you to complete together. How many can you do this month?

# Pursuit #1

Reflect, think, and discuss with your student things you both would like to do, but find intimidating or scary. Maybe it's a new hobby, trying a new game, sharing your art or invention with others, or going on an adventure somewhere. Give 1 of these things a try together and take a selfie to capture the memory!

Pursuit #2

Review Courage as a family! Remember that Courage is choosing what is helpful, right, and kind - even when it's hard or scary. What's something that you've been afraid to discuss with your student? Something that might be difficult to explain about our community or the world. Chances are they will hear about it eventually and it may come from someone who is less informed or less supportive than you. Have a courageous conversation with your student. It could be about bullying, the environment, uncertainty, etc. Remind them that love and support are 2 tools that we can use to practice Courage. Discuss as a family ways they can practice Courage around the issue you discuss.

## Pursuit #3

We have all demonstrated Courage in our lives. Many of us have seen people practice Courage in ways that have inspired us. Stories are powerful tools for connecting as a family. Protect time this week to share stories about Courage with each other (you can use the story prompts to get started). At the end of the conversation, think of 1 way you can practice Courage this week.



#### Story Prompts:

- A time I (or someone else) showed Courage was \_\_\_\_\_.
- An act of Courage that changed/challenged me was \_\_\_\_\_.

