

Avoiding Resistance Contents

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Recorded Webinars

Introduction

K-2nd Grade

3rd-6th Grade

Middle School

High School



training, support, and encouragement
for home schooling parents

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I. Resistance – Root Causes

A. Willful

B. Developmental

II. Stages of Development

A. K-2nd grade – too much structured work

1. read aloud

2. fun and games

a. reduce book work

b. offer fun alternatives

3. Concentrate on readiness skills

4. Develop gross motor skills & fine motor skills

5. Use curriculum as a springboard

B. 3rd-6th grades – type of work

1. consider level of difficulty

2. make work more palatable

a. delight-directed studies

b. supplements and games

c. be creative!

d. reward system

e. read aloud

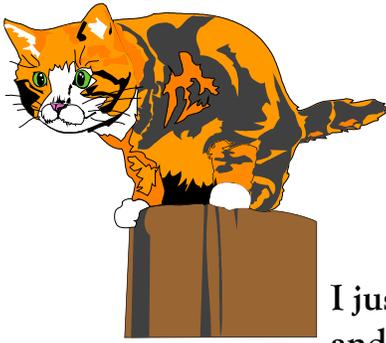
f. consider health issues

III. Tools for Keeping Your Sanity

- A. Give back control by giving choices about school and about obedience.
- B. Realize that you may have buttons that are being pushed.
- C. Keep control of your own emotions and refuse to enter into verbal battles.
- D. Be prepared to listen and ask, “What could I do to help you want to do this assignment?”

IV. Resources

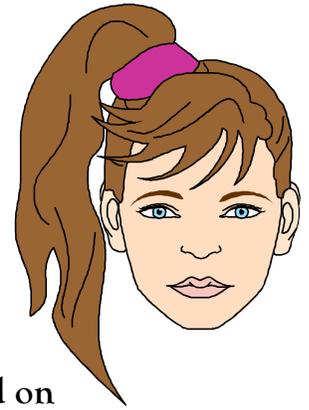
- A. *Educating the WholeHearted Child*, Clay and Sally Clarkson
- B. *Better Late Than Early*, Raymond and Dorothy Moore
- C. *The Five Love Languages, The Five Love Languages of Children, and The Five Love Languages of Teens*, Gary D. Chapman
- D. *Age of Opportunity*, Paul Tripp
- E. *How to Really Love Your Teenager*, Ross Campbell
- F. *Adolescence Isn't Terminal*, Kevin Leman
- G. *The Heart of Anger*, Lou Priolo
- H. *Say Goodbye to Whining, Complaining, and Bad Attitudes... in You and Your Kids*, and other books by Scott Turansky and Joanne Miller
- I. *You Can't Make Me (But I Can Be Persuaded)*, Cynthia Tobias
- J. *Making Children Mind without Losing Yours*, Dr. Kevin Leman
- K. *Bringing Up Boys*, James Dobson
- L. *Talkers, Walkers, and Doers*, Cheri Fuller
- M. *Right-Brained Children in a Left-Brained World*, Jeffrey Freed
- N. *Timeless Teaching Tips*, Joyce Herzog
- O. *Boys and Girls Learn Differently*, Michael Gurian
- P. *7 Tools for Cultivating Your Child's Potential*, Zan Tyler



The Cat Years

by Adair Lara

From the San Francisco Chronicle
March 8, 1996



I just realized that while children are dogs – loyal and affectionate – teenagers are cats. It is so easy to be a dog owner. You feed it, train it, boss it around. It puts its head on your knee and gazes at you as if you were a Rembrandt painting. It bounds indoors with enthusiasm when you call it.

Then around age 13, your adoring little puppy turns into a big old cat. When you tell it to come inside, it looks amazed, as if wondering who died and made you emperor. Instead of dogging your footsteps, it disappears. You won't see it again until it gets hungry – then it pauses on its sprint through the kitchen long enough to turn its nose up at whatever you're serving. When you reach out to ruffle its head, in that old affectionate gesture, it twists away from you, then gives you a blank stare, as if trying to remember where it has seen you before.

You, not realizing that the dog is now a cat, think something must be desperately wrong with it. It seems so antisocial, so distant, sort of depressed. It won't go on family outings. Since you're the one who raised it, taught it to fetch and stay and sit on command, you assume that you did something wrong. Flooded with guilt and fear, you redouble your efforts to make your pet behave.

Only now you're dealing with a cat, so everything that worked before now produces the opposite of the desired result. Call it, and it runs away. Tell it to sit, and it jumps on the counter. The more you go toward it, wringing your hands, the more it moves away.

Instead of continuing to act like a dog owner, you can learn to behave like a cat owner. Put a dish of food near the door, and let it come to you. But remember that a cat needs your help and your affection too. Sit still, and it will come, seeking that warm, comforting lap it has not entirely forgotten. Be there to open the door for it.

One day, your grown-up child will walk into the kitchen, give you a big kiss and say, "You've been on your feet all day. Let me get those dishes for you." Then you'll realize your cat is a dog again.

