Introduction

The Tuttle Twins series of books is a unique attempt to teach the principles of liberty to young children. While plenty of material exists to help adults understand this philosophy, now kids can learn about and act on the core concepts of freedom.

This Activity Workbook supplements the eighth book in the series, *The Tuttle Twins and the Fate of the Future*. After reading the book, children of all ages can find material here to practice with, learn from, and play with to keep the message of the book fresh in their minds. Learning about these new ideas isn’t a one time event—it’s a continual process, and using the content in this workbook will help your child retain the message he or she learned from in the book.

While The Tuttle Twins series is targeted to kids age 5-10, many younger and older children have responded very positively to the books. The materials in this Activity Workbook will cover the entire spectrum of children’s ages, starting with the younger audience and then progressing towards more advanced activities.

HAVEN’T READ THE BOOK YET?

Should we coerce others to get what we want?

The history of the world is a tale of some people bossing others around, but brave thinkers have always offered ideas for a better future where people use persuasion instead. And after Ethan and Emily watch a dystopian film portraying a future full of coercion, they realize that they need to learn how to avoid it.

Enter Murray Rothbard, author of *Anatomy of the State*, whose book teaches the Tuttle Twins that the fate of the future—and all of humanity—depends on thinking of ways we can work together peacefully, to build a better society without relying on coercion.
What is persuasion? And what is coercion?

Write a definition below each drawing, then color the image.
Writing Practice

Each of the words below are from *The Tuttle Twins and the Fate of the Future*. Practice writing each of them on the worksheet below. Trace the word first, and then write it on your own to practice!

State

Coercion

Society

Law

Jurisdiction

Book

Dystopia
Word Search

WORD LIST

Dystopia          Society          State
Mandazi          Future          Coercion
Government       Persuasion      Law
Club             LEGO
Decode the Message

What should the future be like?
Use the key below to decode the message!

DECODER KEY
Compete Against the State

With a parent, friend, or even by yourself, come up with a list of 5-10 laws you know about that the state enforces. Here’s an example: most children who set up a summertime lemonade stand are required to pay for a business license and food safety permit.

Then, create your own government and imagine that you have to now compete for customers. For each of the laws you listed, what would your government do? Modify them? Get rid of them altogether? List your ideas for each law, and give your government a name.

Ask some friends or family members if they would prefer to be part of your government with its different laws than the state and its laws. Have a discussion together about the pros and cons of hiring your government instead of being part of the state.
Your LEGO Future

After reading about the state and seeing how it differs so much from society, Ethan and Emily decided for their book club activity to encourage the other kids to help them think up ideas of how to solve big problems using persuasion instead of coercion.

As part of the activity, they used LEGO bricks to create a vision for how a society would function using persuasion rather than relying on the state and coercion to get things done.

What would you have built alongside the Tuttle Twins? Using LEGO bricks or something similar, build your own society. What would “utopia” look like for you?

To help you get started, imagine up your version of these common parts of the state:

- A military to protect people from foreign threats
- A police force to stop crime
- A network of roads and the ability to stop dangerous drivers
- A way to pay for everything!
Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS
3. Opposite of past
5. Not a utopia
6. Control over a certain territory
9. A delicious Ugandan treat

DOWN
1. A government with monopoly control in a certain jurisdiction
2. Using words to change another’s mind
4. Threat or use of violence
7. People voluntarily working together
8. A rule someone is obligated to follow
Help the Twins Find a New Path!
Tuttle Twins Bingo

Next time you read the book, you can play bingo! Every time you hear a word mentioned that you see below, cover it with a coin, small toy, or piece of cereal. When you get four in a row, you win! Print them out and play with siblings or friends.

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The Tuttle Twins and the AI Conundrum

Ethan and Emily had read about AI, or artificial intelligence, but soon it began to _______________ their lives. All around them, the technology began _______________ people. “We have to make sure society doesn’t change _______________,” Emily told Ethan. “Imagine what robots could do to _______________!”

The Tuttle Twins had reads lots of _______________ fiction, so they had some _______________ ideas about how AI might become a problem. But what would the _______________ look like in just a few years?

“I can’t wait to have my own personal _______________,” Ethan said. “Then I won’t have to clean the _______________ anymore!” Emily laughed, but wondered if the benefits would be more than the _______________. “That’s great,” she said, “but how do we make sure _______________ don’t control us?”

Ethan scratched his _______________. “Beats me,” he replied. “All I know is, this _______________ is really _______________!”
Group Discussion

Do you have siblings who read the book? Perhaps you’re in a book club, youth organization, or other group with kids who read the book as well. The following questions are meant for group discussion so you can talk about what you’ve learned and consider how it could be applied to your life and the world around you.

1. What are ways that your parents work together with other adults in society?

2. What are different forms of government that have existed throughout world history? Are any of them not a “state”? In other words, did any of them not have a monopoly of force within a certain territory?

3. Why would it be important to resolve our differences and problems without the use of coercion?

4. If we recognize that individuals shouldn’t hurt others, why do so many people feel it’s okay to do so using the state?

5. Were any of the ideas shared at the end of the book worth exploring? Or what ideas would you come up with on your own to address societal problems without using the state?

6. What in human nature leads us to want to coerce others?

7. Can a peaceful society ever exist, and last, that doesn’t use coercion?
Writing Assignment

How well did you understand the message in *The Tuttle Twins and the Fate of the Future*? Do you feel you now know these concepts well enough to teach somebody else?

In 3-400 words, write a brief article that teaches others about the concepts in the book. Is it selfish to enjoy things you’ve worked hard to earn? Is socialism ever a good idea? Do laws that take things from hard-working people discourage hard work or incentivize them to relocate to a place that will let them keep more of what they have? Use these as guiding questions to help you formulate your thoughts and compose the article.

Once you’re done, consider asking a parent or another adult to help you edit it. When you feel that you’re ready to share it with others, you can post it on social media, write a blog post, or email it to some friends or family members. Just like Ben’s Reality Check report helped teach many people about these concepts, use this as your opportunity to help others understand as well!

If you’re feeling particularly ambitious, consider submitting a “Letter to the Editor” for your local newspaper. Hundreds—perhaps thousands—of people will read your message if the editor publishes it! You can find how to do this on the newspaper’s website (usually in the About, Contact, or FAQ sections), or you can ask a parent for help tracking down the information. Note that most newspapers limit these submissions to 150-200 words, so you’ll need to condense your message—but make sure to leave the good stuff in!
Anatomy of the State

Murray Rothbard was a prolific writer, using the power of his pen to identify problems with—and offer solutions for—the many political problems seen in governments throughout history in throughout the world.

These criticisms honed in on one key focus, expanded upon in a brief essay called *Anatomy of the State*. This focused criticism of concentrated political power reveals to the reader that the primary obstacle inhibiting freedom is the system itself—the nature and power of the state.

We often take for granted that this system is “just the way it is,” and fail to even contemplate alternatives. That’s the point of our book, *The Tuttle Twins and the Fate of the Future*—to invite our readers to consider what a future without a system of coercion might look like.

Consider this quote from Rothbard’s book (the last line might sound familiar!): 

*In this century, the human race faces, once again, the virulent reign of the State—of the State now armed with the fruits of man’s creative powers, confiscated and perverted to its own aims. The last few centuries were times when men tried to place constitutional and other limits on the State, only to find that such limits, as with all other attempts, have failed. Of all the numerous forms that governments have taken over the centuries, of all the concepts and institutions that have been tried, none has succeeded in keeping the State in check. The problem of the State is evidently as far from solution as ever. Perhaps new paths of inquiry must be explored, if the successful, final solution of the State question is ever to be attained.*
Mandazi

INGREDIENTS AND SUPPLIES

- 3 cups All-Purpose flour
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon active dry yeast
- ½ cup coconut milk
- ½ cup sugar
- ½ cup warm water
- 1 tablespoon oil
- Oil for deep frying

DIRECTIONS

1. Dissolve the yeast in the warm water and set aside.
2. Beat the egg in a bowl; add the milk, sugar and oil. Mix well and set aside.
3. On the 3 cups of flour, remove on cup and set aside. On the other cups of flour add the ground cinnamon and the yeast mixture. Mix well using your hands.
4. Gradually add the egg mixture on the flour and also the remaining cup of flour while mixing continuously until you get dough that is not too sticky. You may need to add more flour if the dough stick too much to your hands.
5. Transfer the dough in a flat area and knead for 10 to 15 minutes until the dough is soft, smooth and elastic. Then put in a bowl and cover with napkin or aluminum foil and let the dough rise for 45 minutes or an hour.
6. Divide the dough into 9 equal small balls and use your rolling pan to flatten the balls into thick round shape. Then use a sharp knife or a cookie cutter to divide the round shape into your desired shape. You can make them triangles by dividing the round shapes into diagonals.
7. Heat the vegetable oil on medium high heat and fry the Mandazi until golden brown. Remove and place on paper towel to remove the excess oil.