Ages: 9-11

Argue With Me

5 min



What to do:

1. Deliberately make a provocative claim: *"A year-long holiday would be amazing."* Then say: "Argue with me - find the weak spots."
2. Listen to the arguments against it. Gently push back on each one - make them dig deeper and find new ones.
3. Then swap sides: "Now convince me I'm right." At the end, ask: "Which argument was the strongest - for or against? Why?"

Try this too:

"Is there an answer somewhere in the middle? What would it sound like?"

Adaptation

- **Too hard** - start with a simple, everyday claim.
- **Too easy** - turn it into a proper mini-debate with the rule: "every argument must be a new one."

When you revisit after 3 months:

"We played 'Argue With Me' before. Here's a new claim: 'Robots will eventually replace teachers.' Challenge it - and find the strongest points on both sides."

What we practised:

"Learning to argue with an idea rather than a person, and seeing the strengths on both sides, is the foundation of honest thinking. Someone who can make the case both for and against thinks more clearly and is harder to manipulate."