



Growing Communities: Leadership Seeds of Success

Leadership SOS

Curriculum Area: Leadership

Life Skills: Cooperation, Teamwork

Description of Activity: Alphabet Dancing

Time Involved: 20 minutes

Supplies: 8 people (could have up to 52 people and use two sets of the alphabet cards), 26-52 index cards (depending on size of the group), black marker

Instructions:

1. Write one letter of the alphabet in capital letters on each of the cards so that they can be easily read. If you have only eight people form one team and then distribute more than one letter/index card to each person. If many more people are involved, form two teams.
2. Leader will hand out one set of index cards to each team. Each person should have at least one card, but some may need to hold two or three if you have less than 26 people.
3. Leader will repeat the sentences below and tell the team to spell the last word of each sentence. The person holding the letter is required to come forward and place their letter in the correct order to spell the word. If the person is holding more than one letter needed for the word, they must arrange to place both letters in the correct order. If you are using two sets of cards, and have enough people for two teams, you can have a competition to see which team can spell the words correctly first.

NOTE: You cannot use words that have duplicate letters in them (I.e. the word “need” which as two e’s would not work for this activity).

1. A good leader must be ready to lead.
2. Leaders must work with everyone and be fair.
3. Good leaders develop people to work in teams.
4. Leadership sometimes requires a lot of work.
5. Leaders can at times be very busy.
6. A leader must be ready to take charge.
7. To be a good leader, sometimes you must work extra.
8. Leaders create success by developing good goals.
9. To be an effective leader, your mind and thoughts must always be open.
10. Leaders must always use good judgment.
11. Leadership roles can be shared by adults and youth.
12. Leadership skills can be developed at a young age.

Reflecting using the Experiential Learning Model

1. Share: What did you think of the activity?
2. Process: Was it easy to spell the words? What was important about the other members in your group?
3. Generalize: When you think of the words that you spelled, does a leader come to mind? What are some additional words that you may use to describe a leader?
4. Apply: How can you go about working on leadership qualities in your 4-H club/council? What personal qualities do you feel are important for a leader to have? How can you be a leader in your 4-H club/council? How does this help you be a leader in other organizations you are involved in?

Source: Making the 4-H Connection Through Effective Team Building compiled by C. Douglas Crouse, Katie Daly Jones, Jordan Ashby, Kristen Cook, Extension Educators, 4-H & Youth Development, University of Delaware Cooperative Extension

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