

Career Girls: Become a Leader

Lesson Topic:

Introduction to Leadership

Lesson Objective:

To introduce students to the concept of leadership by acquainting them with the vocabulary that supports an understanding of leadership attributes and actions.

Warm-up Activity:

1. Provide each student a copy of the **List of Leadership Vocabulary Words**.
2. Have students circle the terms they believe they are familiar with and look up the definitions of those they are not familiar with. Have students record their definitions on the page.
3. For each term have students work together or with you to generate sentences that demonstrate their understanding of each vocabulary word in context (e.g., "On a soccer team, the coach is a leader and the players are team members," or, "In the school play, the director is the leader and the actors are team members.>").
4. Use this opportunity to clear up any misconceptions regarding word meanings as they relate to leadership.

View the Video: "Become a Leader"

1. Preview the video before sharing it with your students.
2. Tell students they will be watching the video titled, "Become a Leader."
3. Help students understand that a successful leader (on the job and in other situations) is not a bossy boss who always gets her own way, but a person who helps a team of people do their best to

work together to achieve a shared goal. (Again, draw a comparison here to a sports team or a school play where everyone has to do his or her part to make the effort successful.)

4. Explain that the video presents ten separate career leaders talking about important qualities and ideas that leaders need to keep in mind so that they can be successful.
5. View the video together and have students listen for the leaders to use the vocabulary words they just reviewed.
6. View the video again; this time, invite students to formulate questions or comments about the concepts discussed in the video and to be prepared to discuss these after viewing the video.

Video Follow-up:

1. Ask students to offer their questions, comments, reactions and responses to the video.
2. Invite students to note *specific* things they liked and did not like about the video and to offer *supporting evidence* for their opinions (e.g., “I liked when the woman talked about leadership and service *because* my grandmother says we have to help others,” or “I didn’t get much out of the video *because* they are all talking about leadership on the job and I don’t have a job,” etc.)

Extension Activity:

Use the “Related Questions to Explore” as discussion springboards or writing prompts to help students relate the concept of leadership to their own experiences.

Related Questions to Explore:

- What are three or more qualities a leader needs to succeed?
- Why are the qualities you named important for successful leadership?
- Is being a leader the same as being popular? Explain your answer
- What are some ways a leader knows if they are being successful?
- Can you name some leaders you know:
 - At home?
 - In school?
 - In your place of worship?
 - In your neighborhood?
 - In your community?
 - In your country?
 - In the news?
 - In literature?
 - In business?
 - In science?
 - In medicine?
 - In math and engineering?
 - In technology?
 - In the arts?
 - In entertainment?
 - In sports? |
 - In government?
 - In history?

- What qualities make these people you named successful leaders?
- Sometimes we can be valuable as leaders and other times we can be valuable as team members. Do you think leaders and team members are equally important? Explain your thinking. Can teams succeed without leaders? Can leaders succeed without teams?
- Can you describe a situation in which you were a leader? Be specific: tell the story of how you became a leader, who was on your team, the challenges of being a leader, the fun parts about being a leader and what you would do the same or different next time.
- Can you describe a situation in which you were a team member? Be specific: tell the story of how you became a team member, who was your leader and teammates, the challenges of being a team member, the fun parts about being a team member and what you would do the same or different next time.
- How can a valuable team member be considered a leader as well? Explain.

Vocabulary Word List from the "Become a Leader" Video:

team

service

inspire

manage

supervise

speak

incorporate

feedback

goal

experts

mentors

advocates

authenticity

Ideas For Future Lessons/Activities Related to Leadership:

1. What Do I Need to Know to Become a Leader? Exploring and Understanding Leadership Qualities
2. Exploring Role Playing Scenarios: Taking Turns as Leaders and Team Members
3. Literature-Based Learning: Reading and Responding to Autobiographies and Memoirs of Famous Female Leaders
4. Conducting and Recording Interviews with Real Life Inspiring Women Leaders
5. Women Leaders Who Have Made a Difference: Researching Leadership Roles in Various Careers
6. Generating a Leadership Mindset: How to Lead Yourself to Your Own Best Life
Generating a Leadership Mindset: How to Set Goals and Realize Results
7. Generating a Leadership Mindset: Practicing Listening and Speaking Skills
8. Generating a Leadership Mindset: What Young Women Can Do to Prepare to Step Into Leadership Roles
9. What Would You Do? Challenging Leadership Scenarios for Students to Imagine and Discuss
10. A Visit With a Local Leader: Hosting Women Leaders as Guest Speakers