



Module: Understanding Leadership

Skill 2: Distinguishing Between Born vs. Created

Activity C: Identifying Future Leaders

Activity Skills:

Small group interaction; brainstorming, listening, discussion, “First Lead yourself” and “Lead the group”.

Leadership Skills:

Understanding how to identify leadership skills in individuals.

Suggested Level:

Advanced

Time:

45 minutes

Supplies needed:

- Copies of supply list (included).
- Pens and pencils to write.

Do Ahead:

Make copies of supply list.

Source:

Developed by:
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Based On:
TEAM Series: Together Everyone Achieves More
(1999)

BACKGROUND:

This activity can be used to highlight the leadership abilities that we all have, and to help individuals identify the leadership qualities in others.

WHAT TO DO:

- Hand out the “Supply List” with the directions. Read the scenario and instructions to the participants and instruct them to begin organizing all 14 of the items on the supply list in the order of importance individually.
- Once they have completed this task, form the participants into a group or several groups, depending on the total size of the class. Instruct the group(s) that they are now to compile a group list without using techniques like averaging, majority rule voting or trading. All decisions on ranking must be unanimous.
- Instruct the group(s) that after a predetermined number of rankings have been completed they should stop momentarily and indicate that they are finished. The number of rankings after which they stop should be based upon the group size – for instance, if you have a large group of 15, instruct them to stop after each decision. If you have three groups of five, they should stop after three decisions.
- When a group indicates that they are ready, the facilitator should ask that group who they think has displayed the strongest leadership during the decision making process. The person that the group most indicates should then be removed from the group, and the process will continue.
- This should be done until all fourteen items on the supply list have been ranked, and, optimally, there are only two people left in each group. (Once a ranking is complete, it cannot be changed)
- If you would like, you can now review the rankings with the group(s).

TIP: *To add pressure, implement a time limit of two minutes for each ranking.*

TALK IT OVER:

Reflect:

- Did this activity demonstrate that we all have leadership potential?
- What were some of the things that made you indicate one person as a leader over another?
- Was there at any point more than one person that you saw leading, but with different leadership styles?

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Notes:

Apply:

- In the past, have you ever encouraged someone to take the lead because you knew they would do well?
- When have you been encouraged to lead? How were you encouraged?
- In the future, how can you encourage someone to be a leader?

BEYOND THE BOX:

Optional Homework:

Start identifying and encouraging leaders in your life. Start keeping a “journal”, or, just a few pieces of paper, to list all the leaders and potential leaders that you encounter, and write out what traits they exhibited to make you list them.

Resources And Web Links: