

*Title of Lesson:* What Is Leadership: Mix It Up

*Curriculum Unit:* Leadership

*Objective:* To discuss qualities of leadership; to consider what qualities are most important for an effective leader

*Materials:*

- list of leadership qualities/traits such as integrity, vision, loyalty, empathy, motivational, character, etc.
- statements on current issues that people can take sides on, e.g., your position on year-round schools, mandatory military or community service after high school, which college in your state is the “best”, and so forth.

*Directions:*

1. Select one of your current issue statements and ask students to find a partner who agrees with them on that issue.
2. When everyone has a partner, have them determine which one will go first, then give them a leadership quality to discuss. Partners will each have 30 seconds to share a leader who exhibits that trait, examples of the trait, or a definition of the trait, while their partner listens without talking.
3. Ask for volunteers to share with the large group anything of interest from the pairs discussions. Discuss the quality/trait.
4. Select a different current issue statement and have students find a new partner who agrees with their position on that issue. Repeat previous directions with a different quality of leadership.
5. Continue through five leadership qualities.

*Sample Processing Questions:*

- What did it feel like to be the first to talk? Was it easier to go second?
- How difficult was it to stay silent as the first person talked?
- Were some words easier to define than others?
- How easy was it to find examples of each quality?
- What other qualities do leaders need besides the ones discussed?
- What do you feel is the most important quality of a leader?

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