

LEADERSHIP

Who are your leaders?

Level: Middle School **Time:** 1-2 Class Periods **Topic:** Leadership

Essential Questions:

1. What qualities do we look for in the people we follow?
2. Are these the qualities found in our leaders?
3. What qualities did Welles have that made him someone that people followed?
4. What inspiration has hearing Welles' story given you?
5. Is it difficult to be a leader ?
6. What kind of responsibilities should a member of a group who is not the leader have?
7. What is your role in various groups?

Materials:

Video, The Man in the Red Bandanna'
Worksheet

Lesson Goals and Objectives:

1. Students will identify qualities/abilities that they think a leader should have.
2. Students will list people who are their leaders in all areas; national, sports, school, friends and family.
3. Students will compare and contrast the list of abilities with the actual people who lead
4. After watching, 'The Man in the Red Bandanna' students will discuss some of the attributes which made Welles a leader.
5. Students will list various groups they are in and determine the role they play in each.

Key Terms:

Compassion
Committed

Leadership: Instructional Activity/Procedures

1. Journal: Ask students to define the word leader. Discuss some of their answers - key points can be put up so class can see them. Students should also make a list of people they consider leaders: nationally, locally, sports, school and among their friends.

2. Hand out activity sheet (see attached). Discuss the meanings of all the words. Working in pairs to prioritize the list from the most important qualities that a leader should have to the least. Put a line through any qualities they think a leader should not have.

3. Have students compare lists. This can be done as a jig saw or as a full group activity. Since the lists will not match, students should be able to discuss/defend their choices. The final result will be a list on which the entire class has agreed.

4. Have students use the agreed upon list to analyze the people they consider leaders. What qualities do they have? Which ones are lacking? What other qualities do they have? Should those qualities be added to the list? Why or why not?

5. Students should view the video, 'The Man in the Red Bandanna'. Students should answer the following:

- Which of the qualities on the list did Welles exhibit? How were these shown?
- Welles was a friend who was highly valued by people who knew him. What qualities did he have that would make you want to be friends with him?
- Whom else do you know who has some or all of these qualities?
- Who considered Welles a leader? How do you know this?
- What qualities of leadership do you have?

6. List some of the groups of which you are part (family, religious, school, etc.) What roles do you play in each of them? How might you be a leader in these groups?

7. Why are caring and compassion qualities that a leader should have?

Who Are Your Leaders: Evidence of Understanding

1. Teacher assessment of students during the lesson
2. Essay on the qualities of leadership.
3. Journal entries on leadership
4. List and explain which of the qualities of leadership you have

Extension Activities

1. Students should do research on leaders in various fields: sports, politics as well as people whose leadership is seen as heroism. The information can be presented as a power point photo essay.
2. Have students do a trust walk; students are put in pairs with one blindfolded. That person is led through a series of obstacles by their partner. The idea is to be able to completely trust your partner. The class should discuss the challenges of doing this (fear) and the positive results (trust, confidence). It should be stressed that the guide must be serious and not scare or lead their partner astray. They also must be completely clear in their instructions.

Who Are Your Leaders: Worksheet

Directions:

Prioritize the following attributes. Number 1 should be something leaders absolutely should have while number 15 would not be important. You may cross out any qualities you think a leader should not have. There are two extra spaces for any leadership qualities you think should be included.

Leadership
Loyalty
Caring
Dynamic
Daring

Community Service
Trustworthy
Forgiving
Dependable
Loving

Accomplished
Honorable
Charismatic
Philanthropic
Fun

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