



Leadership as a Life-Long-Skill

Introduction

Current 21st century literature indicates that our youth needs to be multi-literate, creative and innovative (Shifting Minds. 2012:4). Considering, the newer needs 'Leadership' quality is one the important life skill to be inculcate in our students. Leadership is learned behaviour that becomes unconscious and automatic over time. For example, leaders can make several important decisions about an issue in the time it takes others to understand the question.

As we know, Life-skills help youth navigate life successfully. Learning and practicing leadership is one of the skills youth needs.

Objective:

Leadership - The *learning experiences* should help the students learn how to lead by developing qualities that will help you know how to assist a group or person in meeting their goals. Some of the skills you can learn through leadership include:

- Self-confidence
- Communicating effectively including learning to listen, giving and receiving feedback
- Working well with people by involving them in meaningful ways; motivating and empowering others and sharing leadership
- Ability to plan, organize, delegate and assess
- Accepting differences in people and in their opinions, managing conflict and flexibility

AGE GROUP WISE LEADERSHIP SKILL

Age	Ages 5-8	Ages 9-11	Ages 12-14	Ages 15-19
Leadership qualities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Listen when others speak ▪ Be willing to be a helper ▪ Be a member of a group ▪ Include others in a group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recognize and accept differences ▪ Identify their own talents ▪ Understanding Group/setting goals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Negotiate personal and group needs ▪ Begin to recognize different leadership styles ▪ Find roles to use their skills ▪ Practice assertiveness ▪ Identify role models 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Organize groups to accomplish a purpose (School Level Activity) ▪ Recognize there is more than one way to accomplish a task ▪ Choose appropriately between leadership styles ▪ Identify and use their personal strengths ▪ Teach others new skills ▪ Explore opportunities for adult leadership
Activities / Life-skill	Story Telling (Martin Luther, Abraham Lincoln, APJ Abdul Kalam etc) How to Listen (Activity)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SWOT ANALYSIS ▪ Self-Awareness ▪ Positivity ▪ Say No ▪ Prejudices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Types of Communication (Activity Based) ▪ Motivation ▪ Leadership skills ▪ Sharing & Caring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Leadership Styles ▪ Decision Making ▪ Problem Solving ▪ Handling Responsibilities ▪ Creativity ▪ Receiving & Giving Feedback

The development of leadership program in school is a way to enhance students' academic, personal & psycho-social wellbeing. This will promote self-reflection, acceptance, confidence, discussion, collaboration and even helping children developing their own 'voice'.

ACTIVITY

1.

Name -“Just Listen” (For Primary Wing Students)

Duration: 2 periods

Method / Procedure

- This is a listening test. Build a contract with your students that they will not talk about themselves for an entire period.
- Ask them only to listen to others, and in case if they talk, it should be about the other person with whom you are talking to.
- In next period, discuss the importance of active listening and being mindful to others; empathy skill ...

Objectives achieved

- The game will force them to become completely *others-minded*.
- Also, the listening skills will emerge.
- The activity will help to learn the power of focusing on others instead of themselves, which is the foundation of relational leadership

2.

Name: “Create a New You”

Material Required - Crayons, Poster board/ DrawingSheet/paper, magazines, scissors, and newspapers

Duration: 60 mins

Procedure:

- Ask children to sketch themselves on the board or paper/sheet.
- Tell them to make identifications to clearly show that the picture is theirs.
- They can use magazine or newspaper cut outs which include their favourite activities and food, pets, whatever makes them special and where they live.
- Once completed, children can present the poster to other children.

Objectives achieved(LifeSkill - Self Awareness, Their Likes/Dislikes, Body-Image, Self Esteem)

This artistic activity will improve the kid’s confidence to lead.

3.

Name: “Same or Different”

Duration: 30-40 minutes

Method:

- Ask the children to sit in a circle.
- Select one child to go first. The kid should be asked to point at someone in the circle who looks similar to him in appearance, hair style or even dress color.
- When the kid chooses one, ask him to point out what differences and similarities they have with one another.

The game will help the teacher to explain that everyone has differences and everyone also has things that are the same.

Life skill - Acceptance of Self &Others;Respecting; Critical Thinking

4.

Name: “Lead the Blindfolded”

The game reveals the importance of communication skills in a leader.

Method:

- Choose a large indoor or outdoor area for this activity.
- Divide kids into two groups and provide them enough blind folds.
- *Place the teams at opposite sides of the space and instruct everyone except one member of each team to put on a blindfold.*
- The one member, who is not sporting a blindfold should lead his team across the field by providing clear commands. Make sure that each member in the team is getting a chance to lead the team in regular intervals. The team which successfully leads their members across their finish line wins.

5. Name: "Volunteer Roles"

Volunteering is a key on leadership roles. Talk to children about how they would like to help anyone in need. Interested kids can be directed to organizations in your own community that may need assistance. Teachers should make sure to choose volunteer opportunities that give children a chance to lead and work with other children. May be different duty at school level planned with HOS

Other artistic activities for exploring leadership include writing a poem about leadership, drawing cartoons, and creating a recipe for how to cook up leadership

A person will develop qualities such as honesty, belief in one, dedication towards the task, being a good listener and positive attitude. It is important to encourage the development of these qualities in early life.

Leadership activities can help you to-

- Check the positive as well as negative aspects of your behaviour
- Identify areas where you lack courage and improve
- Boost self-confidence
- Express and communicate effectively with one another
- Develop organizational skills