



# Leading with Character

Leaders do not command excellence; they build excellence. Excellence is “being all you can be” within the bounds of doing what is right for your organization. To reach excellence, you must first be a leader of good character. You must do everything you are supposed to do. Look at the elements of Character Education below and the ideas for how you can model good Character in your project work.

<b>Trustworthiness</b>	Display sincerity, integrity and candor in all your actions. Deceptive behavior will not inspire trust from the group.
<b>Respect</b>	Treat others as you would like to be treated. If you are competing for an office or position, make sure you respect the others involved.
<b>Responsibility</b>	Set a good example to others, and have good work habits.
<b>Fairness</b>	Show fair treatment to all people. Prejudice is the enemy of justice. Display empathy by being sensitive to the feelings, values, interests and well-being of others.
<b>Caring</b>	Encourage others to participate and make sure you listen to their ideas. Express gratitude to people who help you.
<b>Citizenship</b>	Use your project to serve others by doing some of the activities below.

## The Art of Serving Others

- Organize and lead a service-learning project.
- Make arrangements for your club's next service project.
- Investigate a historical leader, and share their accomplishments.
- Volunteer to serve on a committee for your next town celebration.
- Mentor a younger member with record-keeping and preparing exhibits for fair.
- Join a political campaign for a candidate you support.
- Serve on a local board that deals with youth issues.
- Notify families about club activities.
- Give a presentation on parliamentary procedure or other decision-making methods.
- Create a club web page.
- Write a letter to an elected official about an issue that's important to you or your community.
- Conduct a club officer training.
- Make a video to promote 4-H.

## Set Your Sites on a Career

Attorney	Cleric	Motivational speaker	Teacher
Bank manager	Foundation director	Nursing director	University professor
Business owner/manager	Human resource management	Police officer	Youth development coordinator
Camp coordinator		Politician	



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