Discovering the Leader in YOU!

Leadership

4-H Citizenship Project Overview

A good leader influences and supports others in a positive manner for a shared goal. Good leaders make a difference by what they do. Leaders aren’t just elected. You can be a leader of committees, small groups and teams. Learning about yourself and how you work with others is a key part of developing leadership skills.

**Objectives**

- Identify your leadership style, career plans and the qualities of leaders.
- Practice communication and self-expression skills.
- Understand roles, attitudes, tasks and functions necessary for effective leadership.
- Assume responsibility for actions, and follow through on goals.
- Acquire teamwork and group building skills.

**Starting Out**

- Take responsibility for a weekly chore in your home.
- Learn about leadership styles, and ask a family member or teacher to help you identify your leadership style.
- Identify nonverbal communication behaviors.
- Lead a pledge or help with a program at 4-H summer camp or a local club meeting.
- Create a weekly schedule for you and your family.
- Volunteer to join a committee or organize a committee for your club.
- Plan and present a fun club activity.
- Job shadow or interview a school or community leader.

**Moving Forward**

- Make a list of what motivates you; interview others to find out what motivates them and compare the lists.
- Identify characteristics of a good leader and how leaders develop trust.
- Practice and deliver a presentation.
- Identify talents in your club, group or community.
- Work with members to establish ground rules for club meetings.
- Experiment with different group decision-making techniques.
- Study conflict resolution, and make a poster or bulletin board about what you find.
- Run for an office in your club.

**Digging Deeper**

- Create a list of your strengths and weaknesses.
- Practice interviewing with an adult.
- Write a personal vision and mission statement.
- Identify various leadership styles.
- Plan a meeting.
- Plan and present a project workshop.
- Run for office in your club or at the state level.
- Develop and implement a school survey of students, teachers and administrators.
- Fill out an application for a camp teen counselor, and participate in the counselor training program.
- Join your Junior Leadership Club and help plan a service-learning project.
- Create a promotional 4-H video.
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Trustworthiness</strong></td>
<td>Display sincerity, integrity and candor in all your actions. Deceptive behavior will not inspire trust from the group.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Respect</strong></td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Responsibility</strong></td>
<td>Set a good example to others, and have good work habits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fairness</strong></td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Caring</strong></td>
<td>Encourage others to participate and make sure you listen to their ideas. Express gratitude to people who help you.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Citizenship</strong></td>
<td>Use your project to serve others by doing some of the activities below.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Visit our website: www.LSUAgCenter.com