

Short and Snappy – Improving Leadership Skills



Objective

To provide tools for implementing leadership skill improvement and track leadership success.

Length

20 minutes

Materials Needed

Worksheet (attached)

Information and Discussion (10 minutes on this section)

This activity helps to bridge the gap between talking about leadership skills and actually putting what you learn into practice in order to improve your leadership skills.

You are going to put together a personal leadership development strategy, in order to make realistic goals for improving your effectiveness as a leader.

Here are some common leadership skills, many of which you have learned and experienced through leadership, communication, and team-building activities:

- Find a vision
- Establish team values
- Set norms
- Identify expectations
- Nurture collaboration
- Build trust
- Facilitate meetings effectively
- Manage conflict
- Efficiently solve problems
- Enable/encourage girl leadership (Girl Scout specific)
- Communicate successfully

Are there any additional leadership skills you would add to this list? (Write additions on a white board/etc. where others can see.)

Discuss as a group what each of these means to you:

1. As an individual (a leader in your life in non-Girl Scout capacities)
2. As a Girl Scout leader

Activity (spend 10 minutes on this section)

1. Handout worksheets to everyone (each person should get their own worksheet).
2. Each person should select three skills from the list that they personally feel they need to work on improving.
3. Plug the three selected skills into the chart, and thoughtfully fill in the information for each skill.

Wrap Up: Advise the group that each individual should regularly assess their skills by re-doing this exercise once per quarter.

Worksheet (Pass one out to everyone in the group.)

Leadership Skills:

- Find a vision
- Establish team values
- Set norms
- Identify expectations
- Nurture collaboration
- Build trust
- Facilitate meetings effectively
- Manage conflict
- Efficiently solve problems
- Enable/encourage girl leadership (Girl Scout specific)
- Communicate successfully
- Other: _____
- Other: _____
- Other: _____
- Other: _____

My Personal Leadership Skills Development Plan:

Leadership skill to Improve	Growth objective for that skill	Activities	People who can help	Indicators of success	Timeline
Example: Facilitate meetings effectively	Have meetings where every girl participates in leadership and each girl can share a meaningful reflection at the end	1.Prepare focused reflection questions to ask the girls at each meeting 2.Ask girls after each meeting who they felt was "leading" and adjust activities accordingly	Other experienced troop leaders (share their experiences and insights)	90% of girl reflection comments are meaningful at each meeting; Equal balance of leadership among girls	1.Assess relevancy of reflections after 3 meetings 2.Try a new girl-leadership strategy every 2 meetings
1.					
2.					
3.					