Leadership Island

Description

In this problem solving activity students will work together to decide the five most important characteristics of being a leader. They must express their decision through verbal justification in an attempt to come back to civilization from Leadership Island.

Directions

*Preparation: Print copies of Team Building: AS.1 for each student*

1. Handout "Leadership Trees" to each student.
2. Divide into small groups of three to five students.
3. Each group is to imagine they are stranded on Leadership Island. The only way to get back to civilization is to choose five leadership characteristics that you think are important to becoming successful.
4. Each group must pick five different characteristics from the trees and develop a convincing case as to why these characteristics will help them become successful in life.
5. Encourage each group to come up with positive reasons why their leadership characteristics will help them be successful. *(There is no set right or wrong answer.)*
6. Each group will pick one member to present their case to the Supreme Leader *(the instructor).*
7. How convincing they need to be is up to the Supreme Leader, who has power over whether the group stays stranded or returns to civilization.
8. If the Supreme Leader determines the group has not developed a convincing case then they must return to Leadership Island and strengthen their argument.
9. Give each group six minutes to prepare their presentation to the Supreme Leader.

*Example:*

1. *Trustworthy* - Needed in order to build both personal and business relationships.
2. *Honesty* - A key component to building trust.
3. *Good listener* - Necessary for developing an understanding of others needs.
4. *Humor* - People will enjoy being around you.
Focus Area: Team Building: Leadership Island

5. Team developer - The ability to put a team together can help accomplish more than someone working alone.

The Connection Questions

1. What did you find most difficult about this exercise?
2. How did your team select the top five?
3. How did you eliminate other good characteristics?
4. Was there some negotiation involved among group members?

Wrap Up

As we know, there are many skills and attributes to being successful in life and as a leader. In this activity there really was no right or wrong answer it was all about how you communicated your choices to the Supreme Leader. You have all demonstrated great elimination, problem solving and communication skills. I want to welcome you all back to civilization!

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<td>J. Mental Growth</td>
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**LK Extension:**

HS.1 - Defining Leadership
Leadership Characteristic Trees

The following is a list of trees and their characteristics. They are much like fruit trees only they produce characteristics that you can pick like you would apples or oranges. You can pick your characteristics from one tree or several.