

Skill 22: *Lead Effectively*

Students will be able to (SWBAT):

1. Define the skill *Lead Effectively* and identify why the skill is important.
2. Develop a plan to improve their own proficiency in the skill *Lead Effectively*.

Provided Materials: Skill 22: *Lead Effectively* – Development Plan

Skill Definition: *Lead Effectively* means inspiring others and guiding their actions to reach a common goal.

Warm Up Brainstorm (5-10 minutes): Ask students to name great leaders, and identify the leadership characteristics these people have. During this discussion, write the list of leaders and their characteristics on the board for students to copy. A sample list of leadership characteristics follows:

- Trustworthy
- Honorable
- Confident
- Goal- oriented
- Decisive
- Effective Communicator
- Motivational
- Patient
- Respectful of followers
- Able to inspire the loyalty of followers

Once this list is complete, write the provided skill definition on the board for students to copy in their notes. Tell the students that aspiring or working to portray these characteristics is important in becoming an effective leader.

Guided Activity (20-25 minutes): Divide the class into groups of no more than four. Tell the students that a coach is an example of a leader. Ask students to imagine that their school is looking to hire a new basketball coach, and the athletic director is deciding between two potential coaches.

Coach 1: Lets the players substitute themselves whenever they want. He doesn't expect the team to win, and he doesn't make adjustments when the team is losing.

Coach 2: Makes himself available to his players before and after practice. He understands the strengths and weaknesses of every player. Every season, his goal is for the team to win over 50% of their games.

Ask each group to pretend they are members of the basketball team. Give the groups one minute to choose which coach they would rather have. Once the groups choose, give them five minutes to write a list of what they think their team will accomplish under their chosen coach and what qualities their coach has that will help them accomplish their goals. After five minutes, groups will present their lists to the class. In the presentation, groups should state which coach they chose, and use the lists they created to explain why their coach would be a good leader.

After the presentations, tell the groups that they chose the coach based on the leadership characteristics that were described. Explain that it is the leadership of the coach that determines how the team will perform during the season, which is why hiring an effective leader is very important, as is true in most organizations/workplaces.

Independent Practice (5-10 minutes): Students complete the **Skill 22: *Lead Effectively* – Development Plan**.

Evaluation: Assess the quality of the plans completed by the students and provide feedback using Part Three of this manual; compare to the responses they gave for Skill 22 in their initial **Student Skills Assessment**.

Extension Activities:

- Create leadership positions within your class for students to gain leadership experience.
- Choose a different leadership characteristic each week and encourage students to focus on improving that quality; additionally, you could assign extra credit to students who do an exemplary job in that particular leadership characteristic.
- Have students conduct research projects on specific leaders who have different and specific strengths.

Skill 22: Lead Effectively – Development Plan

Name: _____

Date: _____

Directions: Give yourself a rating of 1, 2, 3, or 4 in this skill, with 1 indicating poor proficiency and 4 indicating excellence in the skill. Provide evidence for your rating.

Rating: _____

Evidence:

Where do you want to be in six months and how will you measure your progress?

List academic and non-academic activities to help you achieve your goal in six months, using the back of this page if necessary. Each activity should be a specific academic experience, class, community service project, extra-curricular activity, internship or job. List them in order from the most important to the least important.
