

Leaders in Training

KINDNESS BEYOND THE CLASSROOM™
WHOLE GROUP • OPTION 3 • COURAGE

Lesson Timeframe

15-20 mins

Materials

- Popsicle Sticks or Index Cards
- Marker
- Courage poster (optional)



Share

Define courage: COURAGE IS BEING BRAVE WHEN FACING NEW OR DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES. (Show the Courage poster if desired.) It takes courage to be a kind leader when you are put in a leadership role. Although there are a variety of ages here, each of us is a leader in some way. This might be with younger sisters and brothers, with friends, with classmates during school, or with teammates. Let's brainstorm some scenarios in which each of us is a leader.

- When are you a leader?

If time allows, go around the group and get an answer from each student. If time is short or you have a very large group, aim for 5-10 answers from varying ages.



Inspire

What makes an awesome leader? We often think of strength, courage, bravery, and confidence as good traits to have as a leader. It sounds like being a leader means you have to have it all figured out, that you don't need help, and can do everything yourself. However, a true leader is open to what others have to say, is honest when he or she doesn't know the answer, and is willing to work on being the best version of themselves too. They seek out others to help them move forward. They work together with their team to accomplish a goal. They know that some people in their group are better at certain things than they are, and they are willing to ask for help so the whole group can have fun and learn.



Empower

All of us are leaders. Some of us may have had more practice leading others, but all of us can become great at this skill if we use courage to stand up and simply try. To help us practice this skill, every student in our program will have a chance to lead us during a different part of our day. (This could be throughout the day or throughout the next several days or weeks. You decide on how long it will take your group to allow every student a turn to lead one activity). To get started, let's brainstorm HOW you can be a good leader when your turn comes up.

- How can I be a good leader? How can I use courage to lead with kindness?

Write each student's name on a popsicle stick or index card. Randomly select a new student to lead an activity throughout your programming time. Make sure to include every student as a leader in some capacity within the timeframe you have determined.



Reflect

Guide a discussion around COURAGE and LEADERSHIP:

- How does it take courage to lead others with kindness?
- What can we do if we realize that we have been leading others without including them in the decisions?
- What can we say if we notice someone else leading without kindness? How can we use courage to approach them out of kindness?

