

Lead with Respect

Respectful Relationships

To develop respectful leadership skills through active play, helping students understand how their words, actions, and decisions can influence others in positive ways.



Learning Intentions

Students practice demonstrating leadership through listening and fairness.

This helps students practise inclusive leadership that makes others feel seen, heard, and supported.

Students aim to recognise the traits of respectful leaders.

This builds awareness of empathy, communication, and calm decision-making in peer relationships.

Students learn to reflect on how leadership can influence others in a positive way.

This encourages students to lead with kindness, confidence, and integrity.



Success Criteria

Inclusive Leadership:

Students can lead activities by encouraging participation, listening to ideas, and valuing everyone's contribution.



Reflection & Awareness:

Students can describe what respectful leadership looks and feels like.

Positive Influence:

Students can support their peers to succeed by building trust and solving problems calmly.



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Objective:

To develop respectful leadership skills through active play, helping students understand how their words, actions, and decisions can influence others in positive ways.

Players:

Small groups of 4–6 students

Materials:

- Blindfolds
- Open space or classroom area
- Challenge resources - Playing cards/jenga blocks/recycled building materials for creating a tower (shoe boxes, books, tubs etc).
- Poster paper and coloured pencils for the final reflection activity

Setup:

Divide students into small teams. Each group selects a new leader for each challenge round.

The leader takes responsibility for guiding the team through the task.



Set up a blindfold maze in a designated area, keep it simple, use chairs, tables, books, pencil cases, school bags etc. Create the *Tower Building* area with required materials.

Clear a space for the *Silent Shape* challenge.

Activity:**1. Challenge Rounds (3–4 rounds):**

Teams rotate through a series of fun, interactive leadership tasks such as:

- **Blindfold Maze:** The leader must guide a blindfolded teammate safely through an obstacle course using only their voice.
- **Silent Shape Challenge:** Teams must form a specific shape (e.g. square, star, letter) without speaking. The leader organises the group through gestures only.
- **Tower Building:** Teams work together to build the tallest tower using playing cards or the recycled materials (or both!), with the leader assigning roles, taking charge and offering support.
- **Follow the Flow:** The leader invents a pattern of simple movements (e.g. clap-spin-jump-wink-click) or must teach their group a dance routine and then guide the group to follow in sync.

2. Reflect After Each Task:

Team members answer:

- “Did our leader listen to everyone?”
- “Did everyone feel included?”
- “How did our leader support the group or solve problems?”
- “How did the group respond to the leader’s style?”

3. Create a Class Display – Respectful Leader Posters:

Each group makes a mini-poster titled “What Makes a Respectful Leader” using words, drawings, or symbols based on their experience. Display them around the classroom to create a visual reminder of kind leadership.



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Reflection Prompts:

- What made a leader stand out in your group?
- How did it feel to be included or left out?
- How can you show leadership in everyday situations, even without a title?

Winning the Game:

There's no scorecard, students "win" by leading with empathy, reflecting with honesty, and supporting their team. Highlight acts of kindness, inclusion, and calm problem-solving with "Respectful Leader" awards or stickers.

Additional Notes:

Lead with Respect turns leadership into action, helping students *feel* the impact of different leadership styles. It builds trust, boosts group communication, and gives every student the chance to practise leading and following in safe, supportive ways.

