Task

Students will use the “Leadership” theme video to define, critically analyze, and discuss leadership.

Sample Essential Question

What is leadership?

Standard

Wisconsin Common Career Technical Standards

LE1.a.1.e: Identify the various roles of leaders within organizations and give examples of positive leadership skills

Materials

“Leadership” theme video
a “Wisconsin Biographies” animation
computer or tablet

Procedure

First, activate students prior knowledge by asking them, “What is leadership?” Create a word splash to record their responses. (A word splash is a collection of words or short phrases related to a topic. Figure 1 is an example of a word splash.)

Next, have students either independently or in a small group watch a “Wisconsin Biographies” animation of their choosing on a computer or tablet. Once complete, have them create a list leadership examples from the animation. As a whole group, discuss the students’ findings, adding any new understandings of leadership to the word splash.

Introduce the “Leadership” theme video, informing students that the purpose for viewing is to develop new understandings about what leadership is and looks like. Show students the video. After, have students discuss examples of leadership viewed in the video first with a partner, and then as a whole group. Record any new understandings in the word splash.

Finally, have students use the word splash and their list of leadership examples to independently draw or write a short response to “What is leadership?” This will serve as an assessment of the students understanding of leadership.
Extension Activity

Instruct students to choose a theme that connects the “Wisconsin Biographies” stories and create their own thematic video.

Video Scenes

First, “What is leadership?” is posed. Mildred Fish-Harnack, Joshua Glover, and Chief Oshkosh are then seen facing their opposition: Adolf Hitler, Benammi Garland (Glover’s slave master), and the hand that symbolizes the US government.

Next, the viewer is taken inside a cabin where Dr. Kate Pelham Newcomb is recommending medicine to a sick patient.

Then Les Paul is seen going inside the Gibson business building, attempting to get them to agree to manufacture the guitar he created.

William Harley and Arthur Davidson then appear, discussing how to improve the motorcycle. Finally, the question, “What is leadership?” is presented once again.