

# Leadership and Values

**SUBMITTED BY:** Kathryn McGinn

**SUBJECT(S):** Career Development

**GRADE LEVEL(S):** 9, 10, 11, 12

## ≡ OVERVIEW:

Students will reflect on their own values as leaders and discuss times when they were challenged to follow their ideals. They will read an article about the relationship between leadership and values. Students will create a poster based on the article and their own experience to illustrate the importance of values for leadership.

## ≡ RELATED ARTICLES:

- [“What It Takes to Become a CEO”](#)
- [“Thoughtful Approach: Developing a Questioning Mind and Spirit”](#)
- [“Shiv Khemka on Leadership and Tapping Your Core Values to Navigate Life’s Challenges”](#)
- [“Revealing Secrets of Magic, Leadership and Life”](#)
- [“Prom Appeals to the Heart – and the Business Brain”](#)
- [“ElectNext’s Keya Dannenbaum: Who’s Your Perfect Political Match?”](#)
- [“Educator Toolkit: Leadership in the Age of Activism”](#)
- [“Educator Toolkit: Emotional Intelligence”](#)
- [“Disney CEO Bob Iger Lets Us In on the ‘Magic’ of His Corporate Leadership”](#)
- [“CEO David Pottruck on How to Be a Great Leader”](#)
- [“Career Insight: The First Woman to Coach in the NFL on Teamwork and the Power of Relationships”](#)
- [“Career Insight: Saif Saeed Ghobash on Why Great Leaders Study History”](#)
- [“5 Leadership Lessons from Israeli Model Titi Aynaw”](#)

**Common Core Standard(s):**

- ELA CCR Writing 3: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.
- ELA CCR Reading 1: Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.
- ELA CCR Reading 8: Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, including the validity of the reasoning as well as the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence.
- ELA CCR Speaking and Listening 1: Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
- ELA CCR Speaking and Listening 4: Present information, findings, and supporting evidence such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

**Objectives/Purposes:**

- Students will read/analyze an article and make connections to their own lives.
- Students will work constructively in groups.
- Students will reflect on the role of values in leadership.

**Other Resources/Materials:**

- Newsprint/markers

**Activities:**

1. Have students complete a five-minute free write in response to the following question: Describe a time in which you found yourself in a situation in which it was difficult to act according to your values. What was the situation? How did it challenge your values? What did you do? What, if anything, do you wish you did differently? Have students share with a partner, and ask for any volunteers to share with the class.

*(10 mins)*

2. Do a (quick) brainstorm with students. Write “values” on the board. What other words/images/phrases come to students’ minds when they hear that phrase? Record answers on the board.

*(5 mins)*

3. Explain that today students will think about the connection between values and leadership. Hand out copies of “Shiv Khemka on Leadership...” and read aloud with students. As they read, have students underline any advice Khemka gives about following your values as a leader.

*(5 mins)*

4. Tell students that Wharton Global Youth Program wants to inspire future leaders to be ethical and follow their values. Therefore, WGYP is sponsoring a contest, asking students to create posters to illustrate the importance of values-based leadership. Students should draw on the information presented in the article to create a poster that promotes Shiv Khemka’s ideas about ethical leadership. Students should work in groups of two or three. Their posters should include:

- At least three pieces of advice from the article about how to follow your values as a leader
- An explanation of the importance of ethical leadership
- A headline to get the attention of WGYP students
- An illustration that symbolizes some aspect of the article
- A list of at least five values that the groups think responsible leaders should possess

*(15 mins)*

### **Tying It All Together:**

Students share their posters and note any similarities and differences. Ask students for their opinion on the importance of staying true to one’s values as a leader. *(10 mins)*

**Practice Outside of the Classroom:**

- What leaders are your role models? What values do they embody? How have they stayed true to their values?

**What Worked and What I Would Do Differently:**

It took students a bit longer than 15 minutes to put their posters together, so their presentations were a bit short. If you're worried about time, you can cut out the free write at the beginning, though it did help students start thinking concretely about the role of values in leadership.

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