

**Key leadership roles**

team-building  
 taking responsibility  
 identifying the need for action  
 having courage  
 consulting with team  
 giving responsibility to others  
 determining direction  
 explaining decisions  
 making painful decisions  
 being honest with people  
 developing strategy  
 keeping promises  
 working alongside team members  
 sharing a vision with team members  
 motivating others  
 thanking people  
 doing the right thing  
 taking people with you  
 developing successors  
 inspiring others  
 resolving conflict  
 allowing the team to make mistakes  
 taking responsibility for mistakes  
 nurturing and growing people  
 giving praise  
 giving constructive feedback  
 accepting criticism and suggestions  
 being determined  
 acting with integrity  
 listening

**LEADERSHIP**

Explaining and understanding the nature of good leadership is probably easier than practising it.

But good leaders are an important **enabling** force, helping people and organizations to perform and develop.

Some people are born more naturally to leadership than others but many more people are able to lead, in one way or another and in one situation or another, than they realize.

Anyone can become a leader if he/she is suitably driven to a particular cause. Good leaders are followed chiefly because people trust and respect them, rather than the specific skills or personal qualities they possess.

Leadership therefore is about behaviour first, skills second.

What are some qualities of successful community leaders?

**1. Integrity:** To trust you, people have to know that you say what you believe and act accordingly. If people trust you, they may follow you to the ends of the earth.

**2. Courage:** It's okay to shake in your boots, but someone has to go slay that dragon, and it might as well be you. Leadership means that you show others the way through the dark, scary, forest. Go ahead and speak the truth--even when it's not popular.

**3. Commitment:** Leadership is a matter of personal conviction and believing strongly in a cause or aim, whatever it is. With a strong personal conviction you are more likely to stick with a task through the good times and the bad. Your commitment will serve as a model.



4. **Ability to care about others:** People will follow you if they know you care about them and about others. The greater your ability to care about all types of people, the more confidence they will have in you.
5. **Creativity and flexibility:** Every situation will call for a different response. Be ready to change and come up with new solutions.

**Looking at the leadership roles listed in the column to the left identify which ones you think:-**

- are most important (*circle up to 5*)
- use skills you already have (*tick your top 5*)
- would be most difficult for you as a leader (*put a question mark beside the 5 you would struggle with most*)

**Thinking back to the quotes you looked at in your group. Which one most sums up the type of leader you would like to be and Why?**

