

# Pondering Point

Throughout life, we all have the opportunity to lead. Think about the last time you were given a task that relied on the input of others and required problem solving. Did you...

- create a safe environment for healthy debate?
- proactively seek out diverse views?
- encourage expression of ideas to find the best possible solution?

Leadership requires you to recognize and bring out the greatness in others, encourage free thinking, and maximize potential. A leader takes the first step forward and trusts in others to achieve success.

## Guess what? You are a LEADER!

*Who do you think you influence?*



**Imagine... inspiring others to achieve success.**

### — From Pondering to Practice —

#### Activity

Here is a problem solving activity that will encourage leaders to emerge.

- Have a group put a puzzle together.
- A leader naturally comes forward to direct.
- Half way through, ask the leader to step out of the activity to observe and not participate.
- Have the group then debrief afterwards.

*What happened?*

*What worked well?*

*What hindered the team?*

Share your thoughts about the leadership that took place.

#### Leadership Self Assessment

For this self assessment, go through this brief list of leadership statements and give yourselves a rating of:

- 1 (I definitely agree)
- 2
- 3 (neutral)
- 4
- 5 (I definitely disagree)

\_\_\_\_\_ I listen openly to others ideas.

\_\_\_\_\_ I respect other people's viewpoints.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am able to communicate my vision clearly.

\_\_\_\_\_ I think of others as being important team members that I need.

\_\_\_\_\_ I leave my ego at the door.

\_\_\_\_\_ I know my strengths and weaknesses and then build the best team around me based on that.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am honest and fair to all.

\_\_\_\_\_ I exercise responsible judgment.

You can look at the results of this survey and celebrate where our numbers are low. These are the leadership abilities that you already possess!

The statements where your numbers are the highest provide you with an opportunity to further develop yourself into the kind of leader that you know you can become!

**"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."**

- John Quincy Adams

