

# Great Leadership Traits!

PRE-PREPERATION: On the first page of the flip chart (on in the center of the white board) write a list of 5-6 great leaders (see directions below in Part I), to be used with Part I of this activity. Then, refer to the *Significant Leadership Traits* section of the ELK1-102 publication. Take these leadership traits and write them on a part of the white board and cover them up with a piece of paper, or list the traits on a 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> piece of flip chart paper (so individuals can't see them when they walk in).

PART I: This is a two part activity. The initial activity is designed to be the attention step for the presentation. Begin your training by listing great leaders on a white board or flip chart (as mentioned above). Include individuals such as Gandhi, Abraham Lincoln, Napoleon, Mother Theresa (continue the list on your own – include a few local great leaders, so the audience can make a personal connection with the activity). I would suggest making the list about 5-6 leaders long. Ask the audience to consider the list, and together brainstorm what characteristics and traits make these leaders exceptional. Write the list on the board/flip chart. After about 3 minutes, segue way into the training, but leave the list on the board – you will come back to it later.

PART II: After moving into the *Significant Leadership Traits* section of the publication, uncover these specific traits (that you already have listed on another sheet of the flip chart, or on another area of the white board). Break individuals into small groups – no more than 3-5 people – and assign each group one of the “great leaders” from your original list. Have the groups list the Significant Leadership Traits list on a sheet of paper – and then provide examples how their assigned leader demonstrated each specific trait (NOTE: Each group may not find that their leader clearly demonstrated all the traits, but encourage them to think of as many as possible.) Give groups a few minutes (no more than 5-8 minutes) to do the activity, and then have them present the two most interesting traits/activities to the entire group. Finally, debrief by talking about the original list in comparison with the Significant Leadership Traits list – what were the similarities? Differences? What traits do you (as a group) think makes a great leader? Do you agree with the list provided?