



Teacher-to-Teacher

Lesson Six investigates the concept of leadership. After reading about people recognized nationally as leaders, students examine their common qualities. Students then each focus on a famous person from their state. Once they have read and written about their famous state person, students must decide if that person is also a leader. (Is every leader a famous person? AND Is every famous person a leader?). In this lesson, students also look for leadership qualities they possess and share instances from their experiences. Finally, we ask students to nominate someone who is a leader and explain why the person deserves that distinction.

There is a strong literacy connection in this lesson. In researching their famous state person, students access online biographies as well as library resources. They use their research to develop a written report and, subsequently, make an oral presentation of their “State All Star” to the class. The concept of leadership can continually be developed and refined through discussions about the characters in your classroom literature.

The activities listed below are designed to give students opportunities to examine and assign leadership qualities

- The *Sticky Situation* gives students the opportunity to strengthen problem solving skills and build student voice with discussion and deliberation.
- *What is a Leader?* graphic organizer asks students to brainstorm those qualities that define a leader.
- *State All Stars* biography worksheet and *Baseball Card* sheets provide the format for completing the state people project.
- *Student Voices Bulletin Board* asks students to nominate someone they feel is a leader and explain why.