

Don't Build a Golden Calf While I'm Gone, and Other Insights into Leadership *Elective*

AUTHOR(S):	Melissa Shaw
SUMMARY:	From the wisdom of The Wilderness Years of Miriam, Aaron and Moses to the Kingdom of Solomon to the reign of Prime Minister Golda Meir, one thing is certain, people cannot lead alone. In this elective, Fellows will explore lessons and wisdom from well known (and maybe some lesser known) Jewish leaders and sages throughout time. Using on- our- feet team building games, community challenges, and theoretical dilemmas, Fellows will develop their leadership capacity, practice thoughtful decision making, and reflect on their conflict resolution skills that they use with their campers and beyond. – <i>Submitted by Melissa Shaw</i>
TOPIC(S):	Leadership Development
LEARNING OBJECTIVE:	In this session participants will further their perception of what leadership can look and feel like by observing their own reactions to challenges, scenarios and situations
AUDIENCE:	5 th grade and up
TIMING:	90
APPENDICES:	N/A
MATERIALS NEEDED:	One small bouncy ball per participant, 20 pieces of scratch paper, blindfold.
SET-UP DETAILS:	Chairs in a circle and open space

SESSION TIMELINE & OUTLINE:

Columbian Hypnosis (10 minutes)

Person A holds a hand up in front of the nose of Person B. Person A leads Person B, then Person B leads Person A.

Quote Discussion (5 Minutes)

Quote on chart paper: *"And Barak said unto her, If thou wilt go with me, then I will go: but if thou wilt not go with me, then I will not go. And she said, I will surely go with thee -Judges 4:8-14*

- Discussion:
 - What does this quote say to you about leadership?
 - How does it compare to the exercise we just did?

Chaos to Order Ball toss (20 minutes)

In this activity there are very few rules to start and an overwhelming amount of balls! The only major rule is that you may not drop the balls as you are passing them around the circle. As a community, participants need to figure out how to create rules that work in order to succeed. In this game we will examine consensus as a leadership tool. Through communication we will build the ship while sailing it. A version of it can be read about here: <http://www.managetrainlearn.com/page/the-ball-game>

Leadership case study (15 minutes) The leadership styles of Miriam, Aaron, and Moses are used as case studies for leadership. Participants discuss what they know about these individuals and their leadership.

River Game (30 minutes)

Participants will stand on one side of a river and as a community must cross it without abandoning a single person. Challenges will include using limited resources that can be taken away at a moment's notice, diverse abilities, and limited verbal communication.

Discuss:

- What did you notice about your impulses?
- What were your strengths?
- What were your weaknesses?
- What would you do differently next time?
- What have you noticed through this exercise about leadership.

(10 Minutes) Closing Circle- [Chijii Cards](#). Choose a card that you think represents your leadership style and explain any new insights.