

## Oklahoma 4-H Youth Development Program

# Building Leaders for Tomorrow

Instilling and developing leadership capabilities in youth and adults.

## ACTIVITY 29: “Management Exam”

**AGE LEVEL** - Advanced

**CONCEPT OR SKILL** – Applying Leadership Skills – take full responsibility for office, club, committees, and leadership roles. Counsel and communicate with adult mentors/volunteers. Conduct one’s self as a role model, mentor, counselor and teen leader.

**LIFE SKILL(S)** – **Hands** – Marketable Skills; **Health** – Character; **Head** – Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, Resiliency; **Heart** – Communications

**BEHAVIORAL INDICATOR** –. Want and need a strong voice in planning their own programs. Want adults to act as advisors instead of leaders.

### THINGS TO KNOW:

A good leader listens and assimilates information. The individual incorporates the information with personal experiences to make decisions which are best for the total group.

A good leadership quality to develop is being an effective communicator. Effective two-way communications means that you thoroughly think through the information received and decide what needs to be shared, and then present it in a precise, yet not overly complicated manner.

Resiliency is an essential quality. There will be those occasions in which you have used your critical thinking skills in an effort to predict all possible scenarios, yet the unexpected happens. A good leader has the ability to think through the repercussions and takes responsibility for working through the situation.

Mistakes will happen and no mistake is “stupid” if we use it as an opportunity to learn. When we do not learn from the mistake, making personal or organizational changes based on what we learned then it becomes irresponsible and unintelligent. A true leader learns quickly from mistakes and adapts to what is learned.



**Materials Needed:** Paper and pencil

**Do:** Are you ready to be an effective “leader?” The following short quiz consists of 4 questions and is a fun way to tell whether you are ready or qualified to assume a significant leadership role. The questions are NOT difficult.

Facilitator—**Do not** reveal the answer until the questions have been answered by each individual.

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Q—How do you put a giraffe into a refrigerator?

**Correct Answer:** Open the refrigerator put in the giraffe and close the door. This question tests whether you tend to do simple things in an overly complicated way.



Q—How do you put an elephant into a refrigerator?

Did you say, “Open the refrigerator, put in the elephant, and close the refrigerator?” **WRONG** answer.

**Correct Answer:** Open the refrigerator, take out the giraffe, put in the elephant and close the door. This tests your ability to think through the repercussions of your previous actions.

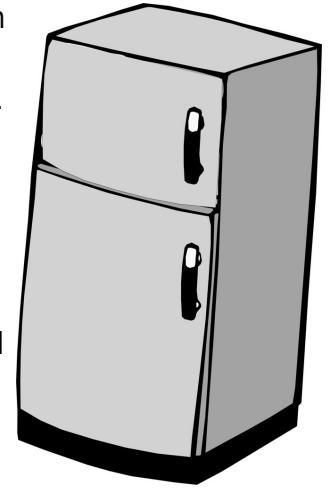


Q—The Lion King is hosting an animal conference. All the animals attend, except one. Which animal does not attend?

Correct Answer: The Elephant. The elephant is in the refrigerator. You just put him in there. This tests your memory. Okay, even if you did not answer the first three questions correctly, you still have one more chance to show your true abilities.

Q—There is a river you must cross but it is used by crocodiles and you do not have a boat. How do you manage it?

Correct Answer: You jump into the river and swim across. Have you not been listening? All the crocodiles are attending the Animal Conference. This tests whether you learn quickly from your mistakes.



**According to Anderson Consulting Worldwide, around 90% of the professionals they tested got all questions wrong, but many preschoolers got several correct answers.**

### **Reflect:**

1. What made it difficult to answer the four question?
2. What 4-H life skills could you have drawn from to help in this exercise?
3. Do we sometimes overcomplicate information we receive and how?
4. Do we always give people enough information or do we expect them to read between the lines?
5. Name some mistakes you have turned into learning experiences? What change did you make?
6. Have there been times you had to accept the repercussions for your decisions and found that it made you more resilient? Do you think resiliency is a state of mind?

### **Apply:**

1. Name some situations where you have over analyzed circumstances and looked right past the obvious? In hind sight what did you learn or how would you handle it differently?
2. As a leader how can you better assimilate, apply and communicate information?
3. Who do you think has the ultimate responsibility for decisions and actions within a group? Can you control anyone else's actions? Do you have control over your own actions?