



Students practice “CIVILITY” in leadership by making a plan to be a hypothetical mayor of their town for a day.



One copy of the “Mayor for a Day” Handout for each student; Pencils or pens.

Total Prep Time: 5 mins.



As this is the third Monday of the month, please consider sharing or re-sharing the Monthly Kick-Off activity, and if appropriate, video at www.everymondaymatters.org. Additionally, a three-minute recap of the previous weeks may add extra context to this week and help connect the dots around the monthly theme.

4 C's		SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL LEARNING		SERVICE LEARNING	
•	Critical thinking	•	Self-awareness	•	Integrated learning
•	Communication	•	Self-management		High quality service
•	Collaboration	•	Social-awareness		Collaboration
•	Creativity	•	Relationship skills	•	Student voice
		•	Responsible decision-making	•	Civic responsibility
				•	Reflection
					Evaluation

GOALS FOR THE WEEK

- Identify different elements of decency and “CIVILITY,” and their practical applications
- Make and implement a plan to practice daily habits of courtesy
- Discover how integrity contributes to being a leader in the community and in other aspects of life
- Understand how “BE CIVIL-MINDED” is an important part of this month’s theme, “MONDAY GETS HONORABLE”



STUDENT ACTIVITY: **“MAYOR FOR A DAY”**

1) SHARE THE NAME OF THIS ACTIVITY WITH STUDENTS: “MAYOR FOR A DAY”

2) ASK 1-3 QUESTIONS FROM THE LIST BELOW TO WARM STUDENTS UP ON THE ACTIVITY’S FOCUS:

***NOTE:** *Choose questions appropriate to your students’ ages, grades, ability levels, and classroom goals. Students may share their answers in pairs, small groups, or as a large group.*

- **What is a leader?**

- Answer: Someone who leads or is in charge of a city, country, organization, group, or cause

- **What does it mean to you to be a leader?**

- **Have you ever had an opportunity to be a leader in your school or community?**

- **Do you think you would enjoy being a leader?**

- Why or why not?

- **Would being a leader be outside of your comfort zone?**

- **How do you think being a leader can help people grow and use their talents?**

- **What are some qualities of a leader who acts “HONORABLY”?**

- **What are some actions that an “HONORABLE” leader might do?**

- What might they not do?

- **Why does it MATTER whether a leader acts in a “CIVIL-MINDED” way or not?**

- **What are some leadership positions where “CIVILITY” might be especially important?**

- **What is a “MAYOR”?**

- Answer: A “MAYOR” is an elected official of a city. Most mayors serve four-year terms

- **Do you know the name of your city’s “MAYOR”?**

- **What do you think some of the “MAYOR’S” responsibilities are?**

- Possible Answers: A “MAYOR” acts as head of their city. They oversee main departments like fire, education, housing, and transportation. They make plans to improve their cities and vote on important issues

- **What do you think it would be like to be “MAYOR FOR A DAY”?**

- **What would you do to make positive changes to your city if you were in charge?**

- **How would practicing “HONORABLE” leadership show you that YOU MATTER and can make a difference?**

3) SET UP THE “MAYOR FOR A DAY” ACTIVITY:

- **Explain:**

- At some point, either now or in the future, you will have opportunities to be some type of leader

- Sometimes we think of some leadership as more important than others

- For example, we may think of someone who is a leader of a country or a state as more important than someone who leads a smaller group of people

- And while some positions of leadership reach a greater number of people, all leadership is important

- Because really, it’s not the position that matters; it’s the person behind that position

- **Continue:**

- Think to yourself of a leader who has made a positive difference in your life

- That person likely acted in a “CIVIL-MINDED” and “HONORABLE” way

- You, too, can be a leader like those you admire, by having integrity and kindness as you interact and lead people

- **Ask:**

- Who are some leaders who have made a positive difference in your life or in others’ lives?

- What made them “HONORABLE” and “CIVIL-MINDED”?

- What would it be like for you to be in charge of your city “FOR A DAY”?

- Would you be an “HONORABLE” and “CIVIL-MINDED” leader?

4) START THE “MAYOR FOR A DAY” ACTIVITY:

- **Explain:**
 - Today we’ll practice leadership by imagining that we are “MAYOR FOR A DAY”
 - We’ll write all the ways we’d love to see our city improve, and whether or not those ideas are realistic
 - Then we’ll share with each other what we came up with
- **Give each student a copy of the “Mayor for a Day” handout and a pencil or pen**
- **Have students work in pairs, small groups, or individually, and brainstorm some things they’d like to see improved in their city**
 - As they brainstorm, have them fill in the boxes on their “Mayor for a Day” Handout
- **Let students know that even if they’re unsure of some parts, such as potential costs, it’s okay; just have them fill in each box anyway with their estimates**
 - After all, this is just about practicing leadership and “HONOR” within that role
- **Allow students about 5 minutes for this portion of the activity**
- **Then, have students pair up with someone they didn’t work on the Handout with, and share what they wrote, brainstorming with each other to come up with more details, suggestions, or encouragement for their partner’s ideas**
 - Remind them during this portion that even if they don’t agree with their partner’s ideas, they can listen to them with a “CIVIL MIND” and be helpful however possible
- **Allow up to 5 minutes for students to discuss, and when time is up, ask for a couple of volunteers to share out their ideas for how they would spend their “DAY” as “MAYOR”**

5) AFTER THE ACTIVITY, ASK 1-3 OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TO HELP STUDENTS REFLECT ON WHAT THEY’VE ACCOMPLISHED AND HOW THEY CAN TAKE THIS FORWARD:

***NOTE:** *Choose questions appropriate to your students’ ages, grades, ability levels, and classroom goals. Students may share their answers in pairs, small groups, or as a large group.*

- **How would you describe your experience with pretending to be “MAYOR FOR A DAY”?**
- **Do you think you could be a “MAYOR” or other government official in real life?**
 - Why or why not?
- **After doing this activity, what are your thoughts on leadership?**
- **What type of leadership do you think you’d be most suited for?**
 - What type of preparation, classes, or training might you need for that leadership position?
- **What do you think motivates “MAYORS” to run for office?**
- **What are some ways you can help improve your city, even if you’re not the “MAYOR”?**
- **If you were “MAYOR,” what would some of your main goals be while in office?**
 - Why would you choose those specific things?
- **What new things did you discover through listening to your partner’s ideas?**
 - Did your partner have any of the same ideas written down?
- **What was the most challenging part of this activity?**
- **How would “BEING CIVIL-MINDED” help you with each of the projects you wrote down?**
- **When you’re a leader, how could you handle listening to ideas from people you serve in a courteous and “CIVIL” way?**
- **What about today’s activity helped you know that your local leaders, and all leaders, MATTER?**
- **How did you discover that YOU MATTER today?**
- **What do you think the world be like if all leaders were “CIVIL-MINDED” and acted in “HONORABLE” ways?**
 - What can you do now to encourage your leaders to “BE CIVIL-MINDED” and act in “HONORABLE” ways?

- 6) **THANK STUDENTS FOR PARTICIPATING IN BEING “MAYOR FOR A DAY.” REMIND THEM THAT THEY ARE NOT ONLY THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW, THEY CAN ALSO BE LEADERS RIGHT NOW. ENCOURAGE THEM TO DEVELOP “HONORABLE” TRAITS SO THEY CAN BE EFFECTIVE LEADERS WHEN THE TIME COMES.**
- 7) **CHALLENGE STUDENTS TO GET INVOLVED IN THEIR COMMUNITY IN “HONORABLE” WAYS, AND TO PRACTICE “BEING CIVIL-MINDED” IN THEIR INTERACTIONS WITH EVERYONE AROUND THEM.**
- 8) **CONTINUE EXPLORING HOW TO “BE CIVIL-MINDED” BY LEADING ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING EXTENSION IDEAS.**



EXTENSION IDEAS:

DO ONE OR MORE OF THESE EXTENSION IDEAS TO BRING THE LESSON FROM 15 MINUTES TO 30 MINUTES OR MORE.

- 1) **Talk with the Mayor:** Give students an opportunity to really interact with their “MAYOR” by conducting an interview. Work with them to set up an in-person or Skype interview with the “MAYOR” of your city. Each student can come up with a few questions to ask the “MAYOR,” and with permission, you may put the answers in a school newspaper, newsletter, or school website.
- 2) **Community Involvement:** Encourage students to get involved in their community by thinking of something realistic that would help their community and presenting it at a city council meeting, or by volunteering for a local cause.
- 3) **Write to Local Leaders:** Look up information about your local leaders, as students may not be familiar with their names or responsibilities. Write your “MAYOR” or other local leaders a letter with some of the “HONORABLE” things you admire about them, or asking what kinds of things the “MAYOR” does to be an “HONORABLE” leader. This can also apply to leaders within your school, such as a superintendent, teacher, or principal.
- 4) **Be Leaders Now:** Let students be leaders in their own school by organizing groups where they can teach a skill, hobby, or concept, and letting other students in the school sign up for those classes. Follow up with students about how the experience went.

**“A BOSS HAS THE TITLE.
A LEADER HAS THE PEOPLE.”**

- SIMON SINEK



MAYOR FOR A DAY IDEAS

	Idea 1	Idea 2	Idea 3	Idea 4
What I'd like to do:				
How I'll do it honorably:				
Resources I'll need:				
How I'll find those resources:				
How much it will cost/How long it will take:				
How it will be paid for:				