



# Teen Leadership 20

## Intended Audience:

- Teens

## Lesson Objectives:

Participants will:

- Be presented with a problem to solve through a series of decision-making activities

**Time:** 20 minutes

## Equipment and supplies:

- Clear Jar
- Small piece of paper and pencil
- Approx. 100-200 pieces of candy such as Jelly Beans, M&Ms, Skittles, or similar candy. \*Be mindful of any possible allergies.

## Do Ahead:

- Count number of candy pieces in the jar and write the number on a piece of paper taped to the bottom of the jar.

## Decision Making

### BACKGROUND

Making decisions can be challenging. Often times, working in teams can lead to more effective decision making than when working alone.

### WHAT TO DO

#### Activity:

- Ask the group to answer the following question: “Why do we work in teams to accomplish many of our tasks?” Allow participants an opportunity to brainstorm and share. Explain that often times, we work in teams to have a better outcome than we would as an individual.
- Distribute a piece of paper and pencil to each participant and ask them to number from 1 to 4.
- Show participants the jar of candy and ask them to write down a guess of how many pieces of candy are in the jar next to #1.
- Ask participants to find a partner and as a team, come to a consensus on the number of pieces of candy in the jar. Instruct participants to write this number down next to #2.
- Ask each partner pair to find another partner pair, forming a group of 4 and to come to a consensus on the number of pieces of candy in the jar. Instruct participants to write this number down next to #3.
- Ask each group of 4 to find another group of 4, forming a group of 8 and to come to a consensus on the number of pieces of candy in the jar. Instruct participants to write this number down next to #4.
- Now, check the bottom of the jar and compare answers to the correct answer.



## TALK IT OVER

### Reflect:

- How did your numbers change as your group got bigger?
- Was your individual guess closer to the actual number compared to any of your teams?
- How did you work through differences in opinion? Did that affect the decision process?
- Was your answer closer with your group of 2, 4, or 8 people?
- Which size group was most comfortable to work with?

### Apply:

- Can you think of a time when teamwork helped a group accomplish a task?
- Why is it easier to make a decision as part of a team than as an individual?
- What different decision-making strategies were used? Did the strategy change as the group size changed?

*Please take time to complete the Participant and Facilitator evaluations, found online at [go.osu.edu/TeenLeadership20](http://go.osu.edu/TeenLeadership20).*

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