



Teen Leadership 20

Intended Audience:

- Teens

Lesson Objectives:

Participants will:

- Be able to describe initiative.
- Be able to articulate why initiative is important to their club/team.
- Share specific examples of what initiative looks like.
- Be able to generalize the concept of initiative to other aspects of their life.

Time: 20 minutes

Equipment and supplies:

- Initiative Handout 1
- Scissors

Do Ahead:

- Review activity
- Print and cut out quotes (Initiative Handout 1)

Prepared by:

Nate Arnett, Extension Educator
4-H Youth Development
OSU Extension Adventure Central
Phone: 937.278.2601
Email: Arnett.67@osu.edu

Reviewed by:

Ohio 4-H Teen Leadership Design Team members

Initiative

BACKGROUND

Initiative can be described as the power or opportunity to act or take charge before others do and is related to the ideas of self-motivation and resourcefulness. Initiative can be critical to the effectiveness of individuals and teams, but it can also be challenging to describe beyond, "I know it when I see it." Helping members understand initiative and how they can demonstrate it can be a benefit to both the member and those they work with.

WHAT TO DO

Activity:

- Ask the group, "What is initiative, what does it mean?"
- After a couple definitions are shared, distribute quotes from Initiative Handout 1 and ask members to read the quote on initiative.
- After all the quotes have been read, ask the questions in the Talk It Over section.

TALK IT OVER

Reflect:

- Why is initiative important to our club, group or team?
- What are specific examples of initiative? (What does initiative look, sound or feel like?)

Apply:

What other places/environments can you demonstrate initiative beyond this club, group or team?

Please take time to complete the Participant and Facilitator evaluations, found online at go.osu.edu/TeenLeadership20.

Considerations for Conducting Virtually:

- Create a slideshow where there is one quote on each slide
- Assign participants a number for which quote they will read
- Screenshare the slideshow when ready
- Ask participants to unmute only when it is their turn to read their quote.



Initiative Handout 1

Use the quotes on this page to support the Initiative activity. It is suggested that you cut out each quote and distribute to members to have them read as part of this activity.

"I would rather regret the things I have done than the things I have not." Lucille Ball

"Success seems to be connected with action. Successful people keep moving. They make mistakes, but they don't quit." Conrad Hilton

"A good plan implemented today is better than a perfect plan implemented tomorrow." George Patton

"Things may come to those who wait, but only things left by those who hustle."
attributed to Abraham Lincoln

"What we think or what we know or what we believe is, in the end, of little consequence, the only consequence is what we do." John Ruskin

"Even if you're on the right track you'll get run over if you just sit there." Will Rogers

"If opportunity doesn't knock - build a door." Milton Berle

"The secret to getting ahead is getting started. The secret of getting started is breaking your complex, overwhelming tasks into small manageable tasks, and then starting on the first one." Mark Twain

"Everything you want is just outside your comfort zone." Robert Allen

"I have been impressed with the urgency of doing. Knowing is not enough; we must apply. Being willing is not enough; we must do." Leonardo Da Vinci