



What's going on this week?

On 20th January, Joe Biden became the 46th President of the United States, taking over from his predecessor, Donald Trump. The inauguration ceremony took place last week, marking the start of the new president's time in charge. Usually, the outgoing president attends to welcome in the next president, but this year Mr Trump did not attend the event. In the oath taken at the ceremony, Joe Biden promised to the American people to do his best to protect the country and do a good job of being their leader.

Main question:

What makes a good leader?

Listen, think, share

- Look at this week's poster and talk about what we can see. Does anyone know who is on the poster? Explain it is the new US President, Joe Biden. Do we know anything about him? Explain that he has replaced Donald Trump. The President of the US is often seen as one of the most powerful people in the world.
- Watch this week's useful video about Joe Biden. Share your thoughts. Do you think he will make a good leader? Read through the information found on the assembly resource, which explains the inauguration ceremony. Why do you think the ceremony is watched by so many people? Do you think it is important to have a ceremony like that when a new leader starts their role?
- Can you think of other types of leaders? These could be at school, clubs or other areas of our lives.
- Can you make a list of all of the qualities that you think make a good leader? Do you think it's important that leaders are well liked, or do you think it is more important that they are good at leading?
- Some people believe that you need to have lots of experience before you can be a leader. Do you agree?

Reflection

There are many qualities that make someone a good leader. True leaders aim to see the bigger picture. They support, inspire and care about others, ensuring that collectively they are helping to improve things for all.



KS1 Focus

Question:

What is a leader?

Listen, think, share

- Write the word 'leader'. Have you heard of this word before? What do you think a leader is?
- Have you ever had someone who has been chosen to lead your line to assembly or out to play? Have you ever played a game of follow my leader? Discuss what the leader's job is in each of these situations e.g. to set an example for everyone, to be in charge, to make up the movements for everyone else to follow.
- Explain that a leader is a person who is in charge of a group, organisation or country. They lead or command the people who are in that group, organisation or country.
- Look at resource 1, which gives some examples of leaders. Have you come across any of these before? Can you think of any other examples of leaders?
- Have you ever been a leader e.g. at school, in a club, at home? What was it like? Did you enjoy it? If you have never been a leader, would you like to be? Why?
- As a leader, you are in charge of other people. Do you think this would be a hard or easy job? Do you think a leader who bosses people around and tells them what to do all the time is a good leader?
- Can you think of someone who has led you? Use resource 1 for ideas. Were they a good leader? Why?

Reflection

A leader is someone who leads or commands a group, organisation or country. Some people want to be a leader, others do not. Being a leader is a responsibility but a good leader can really make a difference!



KS2 Focus

Question:

Can anyone become a leader?

Listen, think, share

- Create a list of some of the leaders you know e.g. your teacher, someone who runs a club you attend, school council members, your local MP, the captain of a sports team.
- What makes them good leaders? Can you record a list of qualities that you think a leader should have e.g. positivity, resilience, good communication skills. Do you think your list of qualities will be the same as someone else's? Can you compare it to someone else's in your class or at home?
- Have you ever led anything e.g. part of a PE lesson, been a school council member, playground leader or sports leader, been in charge of younger children in school? What was it like? Did you enjoy being a leader?
- Look at resource 2, where some people share their opinions about leadership. Do you think anyone can be a leader? Do you think everyone will agree that someone is a good leader? Why?
- Jasmine mentions it being trickier to be seen as a good leader if you lead more people. Do you think it is harder to lead a larger number of people, for example the whole country, than perhaps it would be to lead a small group? Explain why you think this.
- Look at the picture shown on resource 2. Do you think this is a good representation of what being a leader is?

Reflection

There are certain qualities, skills and attributes which will help in positions of leadership. If you want to be a good leader, you can develop these skills. It is important to remember not everyone may want to be a leader and not everyone will agree on what makes a good leader.



KS2 Follow-up Ideas

Option 1: The leader of the UK is called the Prime Minister.

- Do you know who our Prime Minister is at the moment?
- Can you name any other Prime Ministers from the past?

Imagine you are going to be the Prime Minister for the day! Create a timetable with all the things you plan to do. Think about:

- What time will you get up?
- Will you schedule in mealtimes and breaks?
- Will you plan to change any rules or laws?
- Will you use the Voyager aircraft?
- Do you plan to address the nation?

Don't forget to include times. You could decide whether to record these in 12 or 24-hour clock.

Option 2: Look at the picture found on resource 2 that represents leadership.

- What do you like/dislike about it?
- Do you think it is a good representation of being a leader? Why?

List some of the qualities that you think a good leader needs. Use them to help you create your own sketch or piece of art to represent what leadership means to you. Think about:

- Will you use symbols, words, drawings or a combination in your picture?
- What colours will you use?
- Will the tone be bright and deep or pale?
- Will you use pencils, crayons, pastels, paints or materials?



KS1 Follow-up Ideas

Option 1: Make a list of some of your leaders e.g. your sports coach, your teacher, your parents. Choose one of your leaders to create an interview to find out more about them. You could include:

- What do you lead?
- Do you enjoy being a leader?
- Do you think you are a good leader?
- What do you find hard about being a leader?

If possible, ask your questions and listen to the answers carefully. You can then draw a picture and write some sentences about your leader.

Option 2: Lead a fitness session either for your family at home or in school. Here are some things to think about:

- Plan your session
- Make sure you model what you want people to do
- Give clear instructions
- Give praise and encouragement
- Be supportive and positive
- Be confident

Once you have led your session, think about if you enjoyed being a leader. Perhaps you could even ask the people you were leading if they enjoyed your session and if they thought you were a good leader!



This Week's Useful Websites

[This week's news story](#)

www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/55600682

This Week's Useful Videos

[Who is Joe Biden?](#)

www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/54855329

This Week's Virtual Assembly

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

This Week's Useful Vocabulary

Ceremony – a formal or public occasion celebrating an event.

Collectively – as a group or as a whole.

Inauguration – the formal admission of a new leader to their new position.

Inspire – fill someone with the urge or ability to feel or do something.

Oath – a formal promise, especially a promise to be loyal to a person or country.

Predecessor – a person who had the job before the current holder.