



Activity #1 – Lincoln As Emerging Leader

- Target grade level: secondary/college
 - Character quality emphasized: leadership, humility
1. Make copies and administer to each student Abraham Lincoln's first campaign speech from March 9, 1832. Have students underline or highlight the phrases which strike them as to how Lincoln is an emerging leader.
 2. Distribute large post-it notes and have them write in a marker a key word or phrase describing their reactions to the speech, especially in regards to what a leader is or should be. Have them post their post-its on the board for all to see. (Hopefully they will pull out phrases like humility and integrity)
 3. Ask the class why those were important to Lincoln and how they are vital traits for leadership today.
 4. Have students write down what emerging leadership qualities they see in themselves, and qualities what they have yet to work on, and how they might use the qualities now and in the future.

Activity #2– Analyzing Lincoln's Virtues

- Target grade level: elementary/secondary/college
 - Character quality emphasized: honesty, empathy, humility, perseverance, courage, vision, responsibility, leadership
1. Ask students to do the following: "Select a virtue which, if lived out to a greater degree or more consistently, would make for a company/community/country/world?" Have them argue in a short speech defending their choice.
 2. Then, ask students this question: "Select a virtue which, if lived out to a greater degree or more consistently, would YOU a better leader?"
 3. Then ask students: "Choose one of Lincoln's virtues you identify with or you aspire to, and write a response on how you can/will choose to be better in your everyday life?"
 4. Post those on the wall so students can see them every day.