

TEAMWORK PAYS OFF!

You have probably had many opportunities to be a member of a team participating in sports, singing in a choir, or even completing a task in school. If your experiences were like most people's, some of the groups were successful and some were complete failures. For a team to be effective, its members must combine their skills.

Directions: Think about the qualities of effective teams as you answer the following questions about your experiences as a member of a team.

1. What teams have you been a member of?

2. Think of the best team experience you have had, and explain why it was so positive.

3. Think of the worst team experience you have had, and explain why it was so negative.

4. What did you learn about teams from these experiences?

5. What did you learn about yourself?

◇ Chapter 9
Work with Others

Enrichment Activities

RECIPE FOR JOB SUCCESS

Many employers complain that students are not prepared for the work world when they leave high school. Employers are often referring to employability as well as job skills — qualities that students must have to succeed in the working world. Among these are a good attitude, dependability, and leadership. Jot down some other qualities you would add to the list. Then read the scenarios below. Pretend you are the employer as you answer the questions that follow these scenarios.

Trudy got a part-time job at a local fast-food restaurant. She hated the early morning shift and sometimes showed up late. “Why is fifteen or twenty minutes such a big deal?” she once asked the manager. “It’s slow that time of day anyhow.” A friend told her about a job at another restaurant with evening hours, and Trudy just stopped going to her old job.

How would you describe Trudy’s understanding of:

- dependability _____

- attitude _____

- leadership _____

What recommendations do you have for Trudy in her next job?

Leslie liked working at the corner market after school. He always showed up for work on time and was

pleasant to customers. He often let his friends have candy without paying, however, and once when he was short of change, he took a little out of the cash register. After two incidents, his boss fired him, even though he liked Leslie very much. Leslie couldn’t understand why his boss should be so upset over a few candy bars and some spare change.

How would you describe Leslie’s understanding of:

- dependability _____

- attitude _____

- leadership _____

What recommendations do you have for Leslie in his next job?

Focus In

1. Write a recipe for job success that includes the qualities and skills that you think would be helpful in the workplace.
2. More teenagers are fired from their jobs than any other age group. Why do you think this is so?
3. Where and how can you practice dependability, a positive attitude, and leadership right now in your life?