

LEADERSHIP LIFE MAP

For use in discovering your Signature Presence and your Leadership Point of View

INTRODUCTION

The leader you are today is a direct result of multiple variables. The fabric of your life has been woven from individual life experiences, relationships, challenges and choices. Reflecting on the whole of your life at a macro level can help you see important patterns and themes. It can also help you identify places where you can find sources of inspiration and motivation and discover blind spots.

Creating a Leadership Life Map is one way to tap into a source of understanding, perspective and creativity about yourself.

CREATE YOUR LEADERSHIP LIFE MAP

I. Major Life-Shaping and Leadership-Shaping Forces: Identify for yourself the major life-shaping and leadership-shaping forces that have left a lasting impression on you and how you lead others. This will include the following (positive and negative): Proudest moments, peak experiences, defining moments, regrettable decisions, episodes of misfortune, opportunities, windfalls, turning points, setbacks, mistakes, role models, critics.

II. Map the Chapters of Your Life as a Leader: In whatever format appeals to you (a common template is provided below).

Chapter 1	School Age
Chapter 2	High School to Early Career
Chapter 3	Early Career to Mid-Career
Chapter 4	Mid-Career to Present

Use these additional icons to highlight each of your significant leadership experiences across the four chapters of your life:



Proudest Moments
Peak Experiences
Defining Moments

My proudest moments, decisions, experiences or achievements, contributions and moments of deep satisfaction.



Regrettable Decisions
Episodes of Misfortune

The decisions, moments, and experiences that may have interfered with my progress and with my important relationships.



Opportunities
Windfalls
Turning Points

This can include what I sought proactively as well as what happened to me that has a significant impact on me.



Setbacks
Mistakes

This can include major disappointments or errors in judgment that seemed then or seems now to be significant in affecting my growth as a leader.



Critics
Role Models

This can include people you admire, that have mentored you, that have taken an active interest in you, that have supported you or undermined your confidence and affected you insignificant ways.

III. Key Assets: For each significant leadership experience, describe the key assets you used or noticed in others in order to capitalize on that event (examples of common assets are provided).

POWER	INFLUENCE	IMPACT
Sample Assets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose • Passion • Confidence • Curiosity • Resilience • Courage • Analytical & intuitive skills • Emotional Intelligence • Subject matter expertise • Open-mindedness • Integrity • Ethics 	Sample Assets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compassion • Empathy • Mutual trust & respect • Commitment to the welfare and growth of others • Skills in collaboration • Skills in giving and receiving feedback • Skills in resolving conflict • Skills in listening • Skills in advocacy • Skills in enrollment 	Sample Assets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting breakthrough solutions in response to challenges • Setting new standards of performance • Learning from mistakes • Innovating • Turning around a tough situation • Capitalizing on opportunities • Leveraging progress

YOUR LEADERSHIP LIFE MAP

	School Age	College +2 years	Early Career	Mid-Career to Now
My Proudest Moments Peak Experiences Defining Moments				
Regrettable Decisions Episodes of Misfortune				
Opportunities/ Windfalls				
Setbacks/Mistakes				
Critics/Role Models				

► Describe what surprises you and what you have discovered about yourself and your influence and impact effectiveness in this process.

► What combination of assets contribute to your uniqueness? Without being humble, what do you value most about yourself? Is this the same or different from what others value about you?

► Ask your coach for input, feedback and reinforcement. Find out what he/she sees. What have you missed? What would you think about differently?