



serious FUN

PEAK: The Difference Template

If you have planned, primed and pumped like crazy, then your group will be seriously ready to peak and make a difference.

Unlike the three earlier steps of the *Difference Model* – Plan, Prime and Pump – there are no further steps necessary to guide you in the delivery of your program.

You start with difference, and you end with making a difference. In the middle, your strongest allies are the five key programming tools – FUNN, Goal-Setting, Challenge By Choice, the Full Value Contract and the Experiential Learning Cycle.

Now, go lead. Leave your group feeling engaged, empowered, valued and meaningfully connected.

There are many ways to create a difference, just as there are many ways to lead your group. Yet, captured so eloquently within the following passage, is the essence of a most successful template for leading a group and making a difference.

I went on a search to become a leader.

I searched high and low. I spoke with authority. People listened. But, at last, there was one who was wiser than I and they followed him.

I sought to inspire confidence but the crowd responded, "Why should we trust you?" I postured and I assumed the look of leadership with a countenance that glowed with confidence and pride. But the crowd passed by and never noticed my air of elegance.

I ran ahead of others pointing new ways to new heights. I demonstrated that I knew the route to greatness. And then I looked back and I was alone.

"What shall I do?" I queried. "I've tried hard and used all that I know." And then I listened to the voices around me. And I heard what the group was trying to accomplish. I rolled up my sleeves and joined in the work.

As we worked, I asked, "Are we all together in what we want to do, and how we'll get the job done?" And we thought together and we struggled towards our goal. I found myself encouraging the faint hearted. I sought ideas of those too shy to speak out. I taught those who knew little at all. I praised those who worked hard.

When our task was completed, one of the group members turned to me and said, "This would not have been done but for your leadership." At first I said, "I did not lead, I just worked with the rest."

And then I understood – leadership isn't a goal. I lead best when I forget about myself as a leader and focus on my group, their needs and their goals. To lead is to serve, to give, to achieve together.

- author unknown