

BEING A LEADER

Shows courage, resilience and creativity in approaching problems and difficult decisions



Creativity and Courage

Creativity needs courage – the courage to try something new, to fail, to fall, to rise again, to learn, to try differently. This is how innovation happens, how we keep up with the changing circumstances of life and work. We have cultural assumptions about creativity – who is and who isn't creative. In our culture, because we monetise and professionalise certain arenas of creativity, many of us think that excludes us.

In fact, we all have the capacity to decide to do things differently, to give a new idea a go and see how it turns out. Sometimes we need support. Sometimes ideas can be self-generating. At work there are so many ways to avoid confronting issues and decisions which would improve our work and those of our teams.

“Creativity is not a talent, it’s a way of operating.”
John Cleese

“A first rate soup is better than a second rate painting.”
Abraham Maslow

“Creativity requires courage to let go of certainty.”
Erich Fromm

“If you always do what you always did, you’ll always get what you always got.”
Albert Einstein

“Creativity is a wild mind and a disciplined eye.”
Dorothy Parker

ACTIVITY

What assumptions do you have about creativity and how it relates to you?

When were you last creative? What did you do? How did you feel?



LEARNING ACTIVITIES FOR MANAGERS

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ACTIVITY



What courage did you need to be creative? How did you overcome your obstacles?

Identify a process or a working alliance at work where you act out of habit (because 'We've always done it this way'). It might be working 'ok' but it could be better. What would you do differently if you engaged your creativity and your courage? What other perspectives do you need to achieve this? Describe your idea below.

Could you implement this? What would make it possible to try it out? Discuss your idea with colleagues. Have a go.



Complete the Reflection sheet