

“Uprooted” a Group Dynamics Skit
Drew Midgette, andremidget@vbschools.com

Each summer the Virginia Beach Leadership Workshop staff uses skits as an instructional tool. In the summer of 2014, the staff created a skit, modeling the various roles in a group, using the four quadrants model of group dynamics. The quadrants include win-win, win-lose, lose-win, and lose-lose group members. Within these quadrants are more specific functional and non-functional group roles. In this skit all of the characters are different plants who take on different group roles. For example, the sunflower is a win-win group member who shares her sunny disposition. Students who attend the leadership workshop are able to see the various characteristics that each group member embodies from each quadrant. We have found that skits are an effective and entertaining way for students to engage in our instructional content. Go to www.nawd.com and click on Parade of Ideas to obtain a copy of this script. As Earl Reum, would say, “CASE it.” Copy and Steal Everything, but remember to always give credit to the original author or source.

Editorial Note: The Virginia Beach Public Schools Leadership Workshop staff has a long history of creating humorous skits that provide knowledge and understanding of key leadership concepts. They have created several excellent scripts for the teaching of parliamentary procedure. Please contact Drew or NAWD Board of Directors member, Diane Anderson (dandersn1@cox.net) for additional information.

“Uprooted” Group Dynamics Skit

Characters:	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Win-Win</u></p> <p>Four Leaf Clover: Cheery, positive, Irish accent</p> <p>Mum: Motherly, sweet, protective, British accent</p> <p>Sunflower: Upbeat, friendly, happy</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Win-Lose</u></p> <p>Rose: Beautiful and popular; and knows it</p> <p>Ivy: Confident, pretentious, “Ivy league” graduate-esque</p> <p>Buttercup: Bratty 5 year old, thinks it’s all about her, “butters” up to get what she wants</p> <p>Venus Fly Trap: Super fly, thinks she’s the best</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Lose-Win</u></p> <p>Weeping Willow: Emotional, feels useless, can’t get through a line without crying</p> <p>Seaweed: Beach dude, doesn’t really know or care about what he’s doing in a backyard with non-sea plants</p> <p>Bonsai Tree: Wants harmony and peace even at the expense of his own desires</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Lose-Lose</u></p> <p>Cactus: Angry, disgruntled, always thirsty</p> <p>Mushroom: Smelly, neglected, doesn’t want to be there and nobody wants him there either</p> <p>Blade of grass: Angsty, always cuts others off mid-speech</p>

Intro: “Build Me Up Buttercup” by the Foundations

Four Leaf Clover: Top of the mornin’ to ya! Is today a lucky day? Are we all in bloom?

Sunflower: Sun’s out, fun’s out! I’m here, and it’s great to see all of your shining faces!

Weeping Willow: (crying) Excuse me, just give me a second. Ok, (breath) I don’t mean to be sappy, faces are just a sore subject for me to talk about. You see, a Weeping Willow’s face is always (crying/sniffles) covered by its branches.

Ivy: Mmm...yes, branches are an inconvenience. *I-vy* can climb toward the sky, free of such restrictions. Perhaps that is why everyone *envies Ivy*.

Venus Fly Trap: I *be* flier than *i-vy*. You don’t want to get snappy with me! I’m the flyest plant in the garden, and you KNOW Venus is up here!

Cactus: Y'all are so touchy, it's time to toughen up. I'd rather re-live the drought of 1934 than be here with you. Speaking of which...does anyone have some water?

Mum: Hush up, dearies, or else you'll be grounded! Mum's the word! If you don't have anything nice to say, don't say anything at all!

Rose: I have some nice things to talk about: *my* petals, *my* stem, *my* leaves, *my*...

Blade of Grass: Cut it out, Rose. I might look beautiful too if people weren't always stunting my growth. Nobody appreciates a blade of grass, and yet here I am.

Bonsai Tree: Everyone take a breath in, and out... Let's just let our problems go with the wind. I'm here, keeping it calm, if that's cool with all of you...

Seaweed: I'm with you, bro. Not tryna make any waves over here. I don't know about the rest of the garden, but this pond is a no-wake zone. *See?*

Mushroom: At least you're in a pond! You have so much-room to grow! Everyone's just uncomfortable when there's a fungus among-us.

Buttercup: Hey, what about me? Ugh, this is almost as bad as yesterday in kinder *garden* when Daisy's *grow* and tell was the class favorite. But I have something buuuuutter...do you wanna hear it?

Blade of Grass: Actually, not really.

Buttercup: Okayyyy, guess I won't tell you.....

Mum: Oh come on, dearie! Secrets, secrets are no fun unless you share them with your mum!

Ivy: Mmm yes, I beleaf I know the secret to which this child is referring, old sprout. Our delightful owners, the Browns, are trans*planting* themselves to a new abode.

Buttercup: Ivyyyyy, are you serious? That was MY secret to tell and it is all about ME. Some dirty looks are comin' your way, you butter believe it!

Weeping Willow: (Crying) Buttercup don't you see what the real dilemma is here? We're being (crying/sniffles) abandoned! I'm just not ready for the Browns to branch out. What's gonna happen to us?

Cactus: (Grunt) For a tree, you sure do act like a delicate little flower, Weepin' Willow. But the sap is right, y'all. Without any owners, soon enough you'll be as thirsty as I am, and y'all won't be able to fly with the dry.

Ivy: Mmm, yes. Cactus's concern has some validity. While a wall of ivy establishes an air of prestige in a garden, the rest of you seem to negate it entirely. I highly doubt that we can find new owners interested in such an...eclectic arrangement of greenery.

Four Leaf Clover: Calm down, lads and lassies! Maybe it's just a wee change. I believe that this backyard is charming enough to plant a seed in another homeowner's heart.

Sunflower: Way to go, Four Leaf Clover! See everyone, you should always look on the *bright* side of the situation when a problem arises!

Mushroom: You've got it all wrong. The bright side IS that the Browns are leaving. They never wanted me and the rest of my mushroom crew in their garden, so I don't want them here either. They're gettin' outta here, you say? What a re-*leaf*!

Venus Fly Trap: Mushroom, you mad, or nah? Yo 'tude really stanks. What happened to you? You used to be such a fun-gi. But it's fine with me, now I'm just flyin' solo as the freshest exotic plant species up in here!

Rose: Roses are red, venus flytraps are eww, and everyone knows that I'm better than you. A rose is the centerpiece of every occasion – weddings, anniversaries, Valentine's Day, and not to mention, *The Bachelorette* would be nothing without me. My beauty can make any homeowner fall in love with a garden. Just put *me* in the foreground, and you'll see.

Seaweed: (Startled after dozing off) See? Whoa, wait, is someone talkin' to me? Sorry dudes, must have dozed off just rockin' to the motion of the ocean over here.

Cactus: This conversation is *point*-less. We have those losers fightin' for a spot as "Featured Flower" and this guy's over here takin' a snooze. I'm just about ready to leave with the Browns and *desert* this group... too bad I can't go anywhere because I'm stuck in this flower pot... Lousy flower pot.

Four Leaf Clover: But cactus, there is a *pot* of gold at the end of every rainbow. So by that logic, you're the gold! And I'm sure new owners will see that in you as well.

Buttercup: But, but, a buttercup's the mostest goldest of all. And as long as new people see *me* first, they'll want to own this garden. You butter believe it!

Ivy: Mmm, false, if these new owners know anything about horticulture or botany, they'll know that ivy is certainly the top plant here. Mmm, but I suppose not everyone can be in the ivy league.

Venus: Don't let his big, fancy words *trap* you into thinkin' he's numba one. If the homeowners want to see somethin' really fly, have them see me first. And don't forget to hide the rest of you guys in the back.

Mushroom: That's a terrible idea! I'm tired of people trying to hide me. I deserve some room in the sun too, so I am not *rooting* for this plan.

Weeping Willow: (Crying) I guess I'm oak-k with this plan. I'm always hidden by my branches anyway, so nobody can see me even if they wanted to. It's probably for the best.

Blade of Grass: Stop *willowing* in self-pity. Look at me, I'm the only talking blade of grass in this whole lawn, and the old owners didn't care, and neither will the new owners. And they won't care about your plant problems either.

Bonsai Tree: Everybody take a deep breath in... and out.

Cactus: I don't need more air, I just want water.

Four Leaf Clover: Just hold your horses, you've got to let the lad finish his thought. Go on now, I can't wait to *discover* what you have to say, Bonsai tree.

Bonsai Tree: Wow. I'd just like to take a moment to thank you for bringing me into the conversation, Four Leaf Clover. This tension doesn't feel right, everyone. Harmony is in our nature, and if we balance the yin and the yang, we are sure to grow as one collecti-

Blade of Grass: Cut it out, Bonsai Tree! You're so boring, man! I wouldn't be surprised if Seaweed fell asleep again over there.

Mum: Dearies, you exhaust me, my goodness! This bickering must stop! Yes I know some of us are in pots, or ponds, but we are bound by one fence, we live in one backyard. And therefore, no plant is an island.

Sunflower: Mum is right! We're all one under the sun. And we need to start thinking like it. If we don't change our rotten attitudes, we'll scare potential owners away. Hey Seaweed, can ya dig it?

Seaweed: Yeah, brah. I'm totally feelin' this. Plants that flow together grow together. Am I right?

Mum: (sniffing) I'm such a proud Mum. If we all think this way, we will surely blossom. Perhaps the best way to get new owners is to work together and take care of each other so we are all in tip-top shape.

Buttercup: I'm a big girl and I want to blossom too... I'm already five and three quarters of an inch, so I can basically do... well, anything.

Mushroom: That's easy for you to say buttercup, you're just so stinkin' cute. I just stink... I don't think anyone can cover up my stench.

Rose: Do I *smell* a challenge? You know... they make perfumes that smell like me, soaps that smell like me, shampoos that smell like me. I *suppose* I could cover up your odor.

Mushroom: Hey, yeah! Maybe if people weren't so distracted by my stink, then they would give me the chance to prove that I'm a fun guy!

Sunflower: Wow! You really *rose* to the occasion to help Mushroom feel like a part of the group. (Singing) Here comes the sun, doo doo doo doo.

Weeping Willow: (Sniffing) I just wish I could see the sun sometimes and be part of the group. It's hard to branch out when I'm covered by, well, branches.

Venus Fly Trap: Ay gurl, dat foliage doeeee. It's lookin' fresh. The back of yo head is deciduous. Buttercup, why don't you hook a sista up? I know you just learned how to braid.

Buttercup: Ok! See? Told ya I could help!

Weeping Willow: Thanks, Buttercup! I've never felt so *divine* before. Now that I can see, I feel like even I can help this garden grow.

Blade of Grass: Yeah you can, girl. Kick it, Willow!

Weeping Willow: (Singing) I whip my branches back and forth, I whip my branches back and forth.

Blade of Grass: Man, I'm actually having some fun. It's been such a *lawn* time since I danced like that. The grass is already greener in this garden.

Ivy: Mm, yes. While the chlorophyll content has not increased at all, metaphorically speaking, the environment has become much more pleasant. I suppose I have underestimated you. This group *is* capable of climbing to new heights.

Cactus: (Grunt) Y'all might've been moved to change your attitude, but look at me. Still standing my ground, in this pot, thirsty.

Bonsai Tree: Cactus, it's time for you to turn over a new leaf. You see, new homeowners will provide you with water to drink. If potential buyers feel the zen in the garden, then they'll want to make this house their home.

Cactus: (Grunt) Well gee, I guess you're right. We have to plant ourselves as a unified front in order to win over some new homeowners.

Four Leaf Clover: Ah yes, we all agree – it's our lucky day! And this clover knows we'll win new people over. Repeat after me, lads and lassies! !!

Everyone: !!

Four Leaf Clover: I be-leaf

Everyone: I be-leaf

Four Leaf Clover: I be-leaf that

Everyone: I be-leaf that

Four Leaf Clover: I be-leaf that we will win!

Everyone: I be-leaf that we will win! I be-leaf that we will win! Woo!

Sunflower: Yay, we did it! See? When the growing gets tough, the tough get growing!

Exit: "Walking on Sunshine" by Katrina & The Waves