BLUE CHIP LEADERSHIP

WEEK 9

Critical Thinking & Problem-Solving



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Leadership objectives

01 **Communicate openly**

Share ideas and make space for different perspectives.

02 **Think critically**

Analyze a problem and explain the reasoning behind a solution.

03 **Create collaboratively**

Combine ideas into a proposal the team can defend.

45-minute session

Hot Seat: 10 min Blue Chip Tank: 35 min

Hot Seat

Warm-up: 10 minutes

01 One participant faces the group, away from the board.

02 Teammates give clues to the displayed word or phrase.

03 Clues cannot say, show, or write any part of the answer.

04 A new participant takes the seat after each round.

60

SECONDS PER ROUND

Focus: clear explanations and active listening

Blue Chip Tank

Company setup: 5 minutes

Teams of 4–5 create a company to address a community challenge.

Company identity

Company name and slogan
A distinctive logo
Three company colors



Materials: two sheets of paper and markers

Community challenges

Each team receives one challenge

01	**Housing stability**	Housing or support for people experiencing homelessness
02	**Transportation**	More dependable ways to travel around the city
03	**Nutritious food**	Sustainable access for people facing food insecurity
04	**Plastic waste**	Less plastic waste in the community
05	**School supplies**	More supplies for schools and students who need them

Solution design

Team work: 8 minutes

A visual proposal

Problem Which part of the challenge will your team address?

Design Show how the proposed solution works.

Reasoning Explain why this approach would help.



Include your company name, logo, and colors.

The pitch

1 **MINUTE TO PRESENT**

Introduce the company.
Explain the problem.
Show the proposed solution.

2 **MINUTES FOR QUESTIONS**

Why will it work?
What challenges do you expect?
Is the impact worth the cost?
Can the solution last?

15-minute pitch round. Then one minute for the facilitator’s investment decision.

Reflection and application

Debrief: 6 minutes

01 What helped your team reach a decision?

02 How did your strengths or leadership style shape the approach?

03 What would you change after hearing the questions?

04 Where could you apply this process next?

One next step: choose a team behavior to carry into your next project.