On the Job Simulations: Creative Dramatics

Purpose: To illustrate appropriate and inappropriate behaviors on the job and to create an awareness of how the actions and behaviors of one person can impact a group.

Activity:

Break the class into two groups (Group1, Group 2). Write on slips of paper different undesirable adjectives which might apply to business/office workers. Examples--bored, hot-tempered, uncooperative, belligerent, boastful, lazy, brown-noser, etc. Place all slips in a box and ask students in Group1 to draw from the box one slip of paper and not reveal to anyone what the slip says. Group 1 members are to act out the undesirable traits they have written on their slips of paper. Group 2 members are to react in whatever way they think appropriate in dealing with the behavior expressed. Terminate the activity after a few minutes and discuss the behavior, reactions, and other ways to effectively deal with the behavior. Then switch the roles of Group 1 and Group 2. Be sure to discuss the behavior, reactions and ways to effectively deal with the behaviors.

Additional Options:

Include desirable traits as well (agreeable, helpful, happy, cooperative, tactful).

Have specific scenarios for students to act out each time or have them draw a scenario from a box. Then, give one minute of prep time for actors to discuss their roles (sales department dealing with a customer who purchased a product, employees having lunch in the lounge discussing company policy, etc.).

Have one person draw out an attribute (positive or negative) and then enter a business setting and display that attitude. Then have the other students try to guess what trait is being demonstrated.

Bored Brian	Tired Tammy	Hot-Tempered Harry	Belligerent Brandon
Boastful Betty	Know it All Kevin	The One-Upper Olaf	Rude Rick
Unresponsive Robert	Negative Nancy	The Gossip	Two Faced Todd
Whiny Whitney	Pouty Pete	The Snitch	Vulgar Vince
Susan the Slob	Phil the Prankster	Lenny the Liar	Off Topic Tonya
Shelly the Slacker	Bob the Bully	Rick the Racist	Chris the Creeper

"Can-Do" Cameron	Friendly Francis	Punctual Patty	Olivia the Organized
Positive Perry	Independent Isaac	Judgmental Judy	Motivated Mark
Confident Charlie	Team Player Trent	Stressed Out Sam	Happy Hank
Helpful Hans	Cooperative Christy	Tactful Tim	Appreciative Arnold
Agreeable Amie	Diversity Diana	g)	