



VENTURING · BSA

## Organization Module 2 - Juggling Balloons

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**Learning Objectives**      At the end of this session, each participant should be able to:

- Understand the critical need of delegation in leadership
- Know the reasons leaders don't delegate
- Function more efficiently in leadership roles
- Know the specific responsibilities of each crew officer

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**Materials Needed**      Seven large balloons  
Permanent Marker  
Flip chart or chalk board  
Appendix K — Why Leaders don't Delegate.  
Appendix L — Why Should we Delegate?  
Appendix R — Trying to Do the Job Alone

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**Preparation**      Inflate and prepare balloons as called for in the activity.

Prepare five name tags as called for in the activity.

Prepare flip chart or make signs with appendix K, Why Leaders Don't Delegate, and appendix L, Why Should We Delegate?

Review pages 9-13 of the *Venturing Leader Manual*.

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## **Activity**

Do not announce that delegating is the subject of this session.

Choose one Venturer to be a volunteer, someone other than the crew officers.

Have the volunteer in front of the group and announce that he has just been elected president of a Venturing crew. Put a name tag on the volunteer that says "President."

Recruit four other Venturers to be administrative vice president, program vice president, secretary and treasurer.

Place the prepared name tags on each as they come forward. It doesn't matter what their real position is in this exercise. Have the four new recruits stand next to the president in front of the group.

Describe the important functions of a Venturing crew to this newly elected person by removing the prepared, inflated balloons from a large bag or sack, and giving them to the leader one at a time.

Write the following important functions of a crew on the balloons with the marker:

- Conduct crew officer's seminar
- Help recruit new members
- Handle crew finances
- Keep minutes of meetings
- Maintain crew calendar
- Program planning
- Handle crew publicity

Challenge the leader to keep each balloon in the air as you hand them to him one at a time

The balloons cannot touch the ground. The balloons cannot be held; they must be kept airborne by the leader.

Give the leader time to fail. The leader may sense the purpose of the activity and ask other Venturers to help juggle the balloons.

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**Reflection**

Ask: How does this exercise relate to leadership in a real setting?

Is it difficult to juggle many priorities at one time?

What is a possible solution to help this leader keep all the balloons in the air successfully? (Delegation)

Refer to pages 9-13 in the *Venturing Leader Manual* for the job descriptions of Venturing crew officers.

Determine which of the crew officers should take on the jobs listed on the balloons.

Begin the exercise again and let the volunteer crew president give the appropriate balloons to the officers. Let them juggle the balloons again as a team.

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**Why Leaders Don't Delegate**

Read Trying to Do the Job Alone (Appendix R)  
Ask Venturers to close their eyes as the story is read. It will help them understand the story better.

Ask the obvious question, "How could this story have had a happier ending?"

Display on a flip chart or poster appendix K, Why Leaders Don't Delegate.

Discuss each point and apply it to the crew.

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**Why Should We Delegate**

Display on a flip chart or poster appendix L, Why Should We Delegate?

Discuss each point and apply it to the crew.

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**End of Session**