



THE SIX BEST PRACTICES OF NATURAL LEADERSHIP

How Natural Leaders Think

Natural leaders refuse to get stuck in fears, limitations and toxic negative thinking even when it is aimed at them. They are adept at pivoting their own thinking whether it is about their own performance, other people or outcomes.

Some see hurdles and think about how hard it will be to get over them. Natural leaders are able to see what it is like to *be* over them. As a result, what others may believe to be impossible, they *know* to be possible.

Natural leaders focus on and appreciate the positive inclinations of other people even when they are not self-apparent, rather than thinking of others as objects of critique and competition. This kind of thinking emerges from a well-honed ability to sense and appreciate the very attributes that others most value about themselves ... to see their unacknowledged qualities and potential.

Natural leaders look for ways to expand the boundaries of their own ideas. They view themselves as learners rather than learned. They prize their ability to inch toward new understanding, by letting their ideas evolve in the presence of diverse thinking and dissent.

Natural leaders easily let go of attachment to former intellectual stances. Not that they suddenly reject all of the old in order to take on the new. They instead evolve forward with their thinking, letting go of the unnecessary and appreciating those ideas that add value in a new context. They also divest themselves of the assumption that if they engage in collective thought, they somehow erode their individual identity. Natural leaders recognize that even their most personal contributions ride on thoughts that have been spun by others and that all who contribute, deepen and further define their own uniqueness even while they experience their connectedness to the larger group.

“All meaningful and lasting change starts first in your imagination and then works its way out. Imagination is more important than knowledge.

Albert Einstein