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## The Possibility Tree Companion

### Discussion Questions and Activities For Teachers and Facilitators



Angela Louie, MSc

## Discussion Questions

1. What does Lan's tree represent?
2. Why does Master Ming choose Lan as one of the students?
3. Why does Master Ming say so little about the lessons the students are to learn?
4. What lessons is each of the students learning?
5. Do you think Master Ming's way of teaching the students is effective? Why or why not?
6. Would there have been a more effective way that the students could have learned these lessons? What would make these ways more effective?
7. Which student do you relate the most to?
8. Describe a life lesson that you have learned in your life.
9. How did you learn this? (Who was your teacher, what were the circumstances)
10. Describe what your possibility tree would be like.
11. What are some of your gifts that you contribute?
12. How would you learn about other gifts that you have?
13. What are some of the gifts/skills/talents/unique qualities of other people you know?
14. How do these contribute to the community as a whole?
15. Are there people who do not have gifts/skills/talents/unique qualities?
16. How do these people contribute to the community?
17. Describe one thing that you learned in reading The Possibility Tree.



## Activities

Draw your own possibility tree. Consider the colour, shape, texture, size of the leaves, flowers, stems, trunk, etc. Add any other details that make your tree unique or special to you. Describe the tree and what each part of it means to you.

Write down a unique quality that you have noticed about each person in your class on a separate card. Pass out your cards to each person (or put on each person's desk). Read out the cards you have received. What was it like to read the cards? What would it be like if everyone noticed and expressed appreciation for someone else's gifts more often?

Make a collage that shows who you are. Share what you are comfortable to share about your collage to others. What did you hear or notice in other people's collage that you didn't know before? Were there any surprises about your own collage? Was everything positive or were there things that were not as desirable?

Choose one of the students who you relate to most and join others who choose the same student. In your small group, come up with a way that describes how you see the world and how you do things. Each group shares. Then each group shares what you appreciate in each of the other groups. How does this relate to your real life?

