

Chapter 3 Activity 1

The Mentor Tree

Name: _____

Date: _____

This Mentor Tree will facilitate reflection on past and present influences of all types, including family, peers, teachers, supervisors, and mentors, among others. Begin with your roots (i.e., critical, formative influencers) and the impact each one had on your personal and professional development. Fill in the area around the roots by identifying people and their impact. Next, fill in the trunk using the names from the Chapter 1 activity where you identified your prior supervisors. For each name, try to specify the influence this person has had on you, the lessons you have learned, and the specific behaviors you want to imitate or that you want to avoid imitating. As you summarize the central influences, reflect on each person's likely motivations, individual and cultural learning histories, and the person's specific actions you hope to emulate. For the branches, decide whether to take a retrospective, prospective or both approaches to further growth. Identify the influences of many life and career influencers that are not represented elsewhere on your tree and consider where you want to focus your next career steps and the people you might want to recruit as mentors. In the section of mentees, the acorns represent the opportunity to influence others who are just beginning in their careers. List some of the core values you want to influence in your supervisees and mentees.

