

Through a well-designed set of integrated activities, course participants are guided through the “Innovate” module.

In this example, they are introduced to the key principle that bigger networks are not necessarily better, and learn how to build into their networks four types of diversity that help spark ideas and attract opportunities.

LEARN: A Diverse Network Sparks Innovation

- Bigger networks are not always better.**
Instead, invest in boundary spanning ties to learn from others. You'll hear new information earlier and capitalize on the merging of insights.
Est. time: 5 – 10 min
- How Networks Drive Innovation**
It's about connecting to the right people.
- Promoting Innovation**
Video 2:20 min
Ideas don't magically appear
- Boundary Spanning Ties**
Explore the specific connections, or "ties," that high performers include in their network, and how to create them.
- Help Charles Innovate!**
- Charles' Story**
Video 3:26 min

To bring the ideas to life, participants apply the network principles to a case study, helping a senior leader to tackle the problem of a work process that is inefficient and too demanding of employees.

DO: This Week's Activities

Week 2 Activities

1. Contribute to the Week 2 discussion.
2. Download the action plan and fill in the Week 2 section.
3. Complete the **Connect** panel activity.
4. Prep for the live session.

- Week 2 Discussion Forum**
Discussion
Est. time: 10 – 15 min
- Download My Personal Network Action Plan**
Document
Est. time: 2 – 3 min
- Meet With Your Partner in Week 2**
Discussion
Est time: 15 – 30 min
- Connect Panel Activity**
Go to the **Connect** panel and post a request for help in **Discover Hidden Assets**.
Est time: 5 – 10 min

Participants reflect on the ideas in a discussion forum, team up with a partner to develop strategies for building diversity into their own networks, and commit to next steps in a personal action plan.