Introduction to the 40 Developmental Assets for Children and Youth

To stay “aloft” children need:
- Asset positive environments
- Emotional Support
- Personal Values
- Social Skills

Adults build support networks for children by providing:
- Role models
- Safe places to go
- Experiences that are constructive and empowering
Connecticut After School Self-Assessment Tool

1. Staff relate to all children and youth in positive ways.
2. Staff respond appropriately to the individual needs of children and youth.
3. Staff encourage children and youth to make choices and to become more responsible.
4. Staff interact with children and youth to help them learn.
5. Staff use positive techniques to guide the behavior of children and youth.
6. Children and youth interact with one another and with staff in positive ways.
7. Staff work together to meet the needs of children and youth.

40 Developmental Assets

The fundamental assumption of the developmental assets is that the more positive experiences children have in their lives, the greater the likelihood that they will succeed developmentally.
Principles of Asset Building

1. All young people need assets
2. Asset building is an ongoing process
3. Everyone can build assets

Who were your asset builders?

“Personal commitments to building relationships with youth are critical. No matter how much money is spent, how many elaborate programs are initiated, how many laws are passed, or how many professionals are hired, the experiences of young people do not fundamentally change unless individuals take personal responsibility to contribute to young people’s healthy development.”

Peter L. Benson, President, Search Institute
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For more information visit the Search Institute
www.search-institute.org

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