### 40 Developmental Assets® for Children Grades K–3 (ages 5-9)

Search Institute® has identified the following building blocks of healthy development—known as Developmental Assets®—that help young people grow up healthy, caring, and responsible.

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#### Support

1. **Family Support**—Family continues to be a consistent provider of love and support for the child’s unique physical and emotional needs.
2. **Positive Family Communication**—Parent(s) and child communicate openly, respectfully, and frequently, with child receiving praise for her or his efforts and accomplishments.
3. **Other Adult Relationships**—Child receives support from adults other than her or his parent(s), with the child sometimes experiencing relationships with a nonparent adult.
4. **Caring School Neighborhood**—Parent(s) and child experience friendly neighbors who affirm and support the child’s growth and sense of belonging.
5. **Caring School Climate**—Child experiences warm, welcoming relationships with teachers, caregivers, and peers at school.
6. **Parent Involvement in Schooling**—Parent(s) talk about the importance of education and are actively involved in the child’s school success.

#### Empowerment

7. **Community Values Children**—Children are welcomed and included throughout community life.
8. **Children as Resources**—Child contributes to family decisions and has opportunities to participate in positive community events.
9. **Service to Others**—Child has opportunities to serve in the community with adult support and approval.
10. **Safety**—Parents and community adults ensure the child’s safety while keeping in mind her or his increasing independence.

#### Boundaries & Expectations

11. **Family Boundaries**—The family maintains supervision of the child, has reasonable guidelines for behavior, and always knows where the child is.
12. **School Boundaries**—Schools have clear, consistent rules and consequences and use a positive approach to discipline.
13. **Neighborhood Boundaries**—Neighbors and friends’ parents help monitor the child’s behavior and provide feedback to the parent(s).
14. **Adult Role Models**—Parent(s) and other adults model positive, responsible behavior and encourage the child to follow these examples.
15. **Positive Peer Influence**—Parent(s) monitor the child’s friends and encourage spending time with those who set good examples.
16. **High Expectations**—Parent(s), teachers, and other influential adults encourage the child to do her or his best in all tasks and celebrate their successes.

#### Constructive Use of Time

17. **Creative Activities**—Child participates weekly in music, dance, or other form of artistic expression outside of school.
18. **Child Programs**—Child participates weekly in at least one sport, club, or organization within the school or community.
19. **Religious Community**—Child participates in age-appropriate religious activities and caring relationships that nurture her or his spiritual development.
20. **Time at Home**—Child spends time at home playing and doing positive activities with the family.

#### Commitment to Learning

21. **Achievement Motivation**—Child is encouraged to remain curious and demonstrates an interest in doing well at school.
22. **Learning Engagement**—Child is enthused about learning and enjoys going to school.
23. **Homework**—With appropriate parental support, child completes assigned homework.
24. **Bonding to School**—Child is encouraged to have and feels a sense of belonging at school.
25. **Reading for Pleasure**—Child listens to and/or reads books outside of school daily.

#### Positive Values

26. **Caring**—Parent(s) help child grow in empathy, understanding, and helping others.
27. **Equality and Social Justice**—Parent(s) encourage child to be concerned about rules and being fair to everyone.
28. **Integrity**—Parent(s) help child develop her or his own sense of right and wrong behavior.
29. **Honesty**—Parent(s) encourage child’s development in recognizing and telling the truth.
30. **Responsibility**—Parent(s) encourage child to accept and take responsibility for her or his actions at school and at home.
31. **Self-Regulation**—Parents encourage child’s growth in regulating her or his own emotions and behaviors and in understanding the importance of healthy habits and choices.

#### Social Competencies

32. **Planning and Decision Making**—Parent(s) help child think through and plan school and play activities.
33. **Interpersonal Competence**—Child seeks to build friendships and is learning about self-control.
34. **Cultural Competence**—Child continues to learn about her or his own cultural identity and is encouraged to interact positively with children of different racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds.
35. **Resistance Skills**—Child is learning to recognize risky or dangerous situations and is able to seek help from trusted adults.
36. **Peaceful Conflict Resolution**—Child continues learning to resolve conflicts without hitting, throwing a tantrum, or using hurtful language.

#### Positive Identity

37. **Personal Power**—Child has a growing sense of having influence over some of the things that happen in her or his life.
38. **Self-Esteem**—Child likes herself or himself and feels valued by others.
39. **Sense of Purpose**—Child welcomes new experiences and imagines what he or she might do or be in the future.
40. **Positive View of Personal Future**—Child has a growing curiosity about the world and finding her or his place in it.