

Top 10 Teen Assets That Predict Caring, Responsible, Successful Adults

The respected research organization, **The Search Institute** has done a study that indicates 40 possible assets that children can have that predict they will grow up to be caring, responsible, and successful people. The top ten are listed here.

Top 10 Teen Assets		
1.	Support	Teens talk with their parents and know that they are heard. They know their neighbors, and know that their neighbors and community care about them.
2.	Empowerment	They see themselves as valued by the people and community around them. The see themselves as able to have an effect.
3.	Contribution	They spend an hour or more every week contributing to their community in one way or another.
4.	Boundaries and Expectations	Both at school and at home there are clear rules and consequences. The adults around them model positive, responsible behavior and convey that this is expected of the teens, also.
5.	Constructive Use of Time	They spend three or more hours a week in music or other arts lessons or similar activities, and fewer than two nights a week "hanging out" or doing nothing.
6.	Commitment to Learning	They are motivated to do well in school and read for pleasure more than three hours a week.
7.	Positive Values	They are concerned about social issues such as equality, hunger, and poverty. They are not involved with drugs or alcohol and are not sexually active.
8.	Social Competencies	They know how to make plans and choices, how to relate to others, and how to resolve conflict without violence.
9.	Positive Identity	They have a high self-esteem. (This is not the same thing as arrogance, which is often a cover-up for low self-esteem.)
10.	Purpose	They report that they believe their lives have purpose.