



spurwink



Characteristics of Asset-Building Adults

WHO YOU ARE

- Open, honest, and an active listener.
- Committed to integrity, responsibility, helping others, and promoting positive change in the world.
- Hopeful and optimistic about young people and the future.
- Self-aware and committed to personal growth.
- Appreciative of others' strengths and uniqueness.
- Striving to be a caring and supportive friend and colleague.
- Reliable and trustworthy.
- Willing to share your "assets" (time, knowledge, caring, experience, wisdom) with young people.

WHAT YOU DO

- Say hello, wave, or ask a simple question to take the initiative in building relationships with youth and younger children.
- Respect and affirm youth and children. Seek to understand them, and expect respect in return.
- Believe in and take good care of yourself.
- Attend young people's sports events, poetry readings, concerts, plays, or other performances.
- Look for the good in others and seek common ground with them.
- Engage in healthy relationships with people of all ages.
- Have meaningful conversations with young people about personal values, beliefs, decision making, and cultural differences.
- Model positive behaviors, including kindness, lifelong learning, and restraint.
- Resolve conflicts peacefully and forgive people when they make mistakes.
- Encourage young people to succeed in school, serve their community, and be valuable resources.
- Use the Developmental Assets[®] framework to guide interactions with young people and to check on your own healthy development.

This handout may be reproduced for educational, noncommercial uses only (with this copyright line).

Adapted from Essentials of Asset Building: A Curriculum for Trainers. Copyright © 2002 by Search Institute[®]; 800-888-7828; www.search-institute.org.