

Assets to Build Strong Families

The Search Institute has identified 40 assets families need. These assets help prevent children from engaging in risky behaviors.

Risky behaviors threaten your child's health. Praise and positive words from adults help build a child's self-worth.

Children Need Limits and Rules

Society demands that people follow rules. Certain behaviors are expected in school and at work. For example, when a child wants to talk in class, he raises his hand. If a person wants to keep her job, she arrives on time and does the required work. Even communities have rules. A person who hurts someone goes to jail.

Read these support assets. They help parents teach children about rules. Put a check by assets you already have. One at a time, work on an asset you lack.

Support Assets

Family Limits and Rules

- Parents are aware of their children's needs. They adapt their schedule and their home to meet these needs.
- Parents set age-appropriate limits for toddlers and preschoolers. As children get older, parents provide clear rules. Children know the consequences of breaking these rules.
- Parents know about their children's activities. They know where they go when they leave home.

Out-of-home Limits and Rules

- Child care settings meet the needs of infants and toddlers. They provide the children with the right amount of play and rest.
- Child-care settings and schools have age-appropriate rules and consequences. These rules keep them safe.

