

# GROWING EVERY KID

using the Developmental Assets framework to  
create great programs!

planetarium



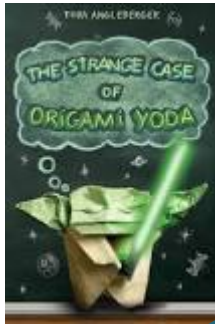
Developmental  
Assets in action!



Kit Ward-Crixell  
Port Townsend Public Library

# What do libraries do?

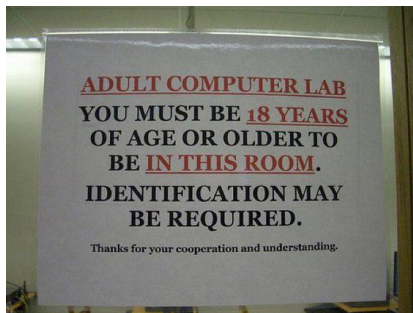
Is it this?



The real Mr. Good Clean Fun



The real Tommy, Kellen, Dwight, Harvey, Lance, and Murky?



Always watching...

# What do libraries **really** do?

- We change kids' lives!
- Through hands-on learning opportunities
- Through trusted relationships
  
- Our goal:
- Every time a child interacts with the library, they emerge with stronger assets than before!

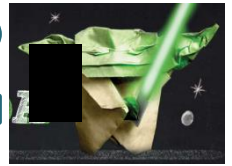
# The Disconnect

Dean Kamen, founder of  
FIRST Robotics competition!



- “We live in a country where we get what we celebrate.” - Dean Kamen
- When we count attendance, that’s what we get.
- How do we count what is in line with our values so that we get more of it? How do we measure changing lives?

In the ways of the Force wise they are...



# Enter the Search Institute.

Search INSTITUTE *Discovering what kids need to succeed*

Search

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Developmental Assets

BLOG

[Do's and Don'ts for Cultivating Growth Mindsets](#)

The way that young people think about their own intelligence affects the amount of effort they exert in school and in life. Here are 10 growth mindset "do's" and "don'ts" that will help you be more intentional about how you respond to youth when they set goals, face challenges, make mistakes, and solve problems.



NEW RESEARCH

*Don't Forget the Families: The Missing Piece in America's Effort to Help All Children Succeed*

This study of 1,085 parenting adults of 3- to 13-year-olds from across the United States found that the quality of parent-child relationships is 10 times more powerful than demographics (race, ethnicity, family composition, and family income) in predicting whether children are developing critical



DEVELOPMENTAL ASSETS

*25 Years of Developmental Assets*

In this reflection, vice president of research and development [Eugene C. Roehlkepartain, Ph.D.](#) writes about the 25th anniversary of the Developmental Assets and takes the opportunity to reflect on where we've come and how the assets set the stage for where we need to go. [Read More >>](#)

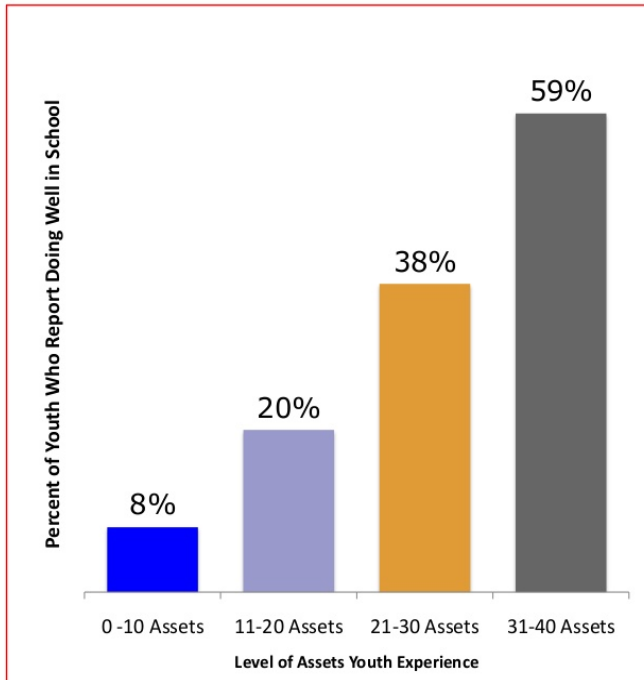


For over 50 years, the Search Institute has been collecting data from real kids on what makes them succeed in school and life – especially hard to measure things like beliefs, attitudes, and passions!

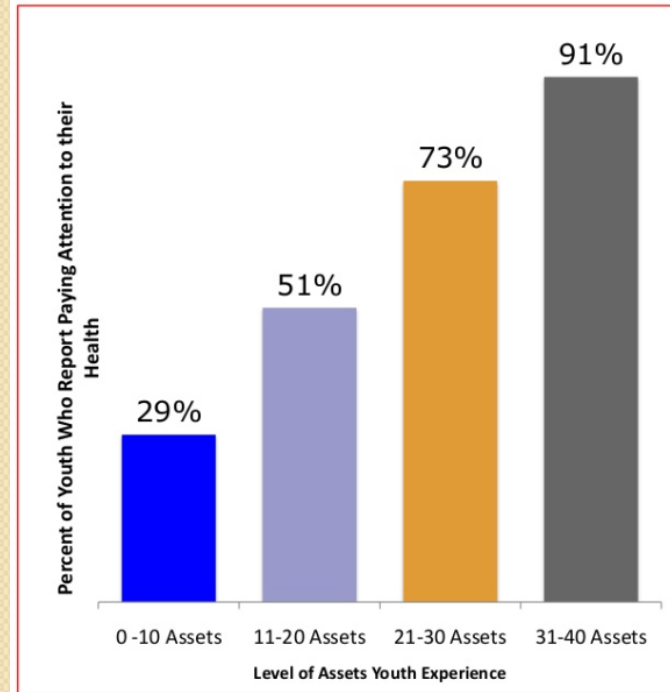
# What are Developmental Assets?

- Identified through surveys of over 4 million children of all backgrounds and situations
- Skills, experiences, relationships, and behaviors
- Building blocks of healthy development that help kids grow into successful adults
- Kids who report that they have 30 of the 40 assets do better on every measure than kids who have fewer.

## Assets and school success



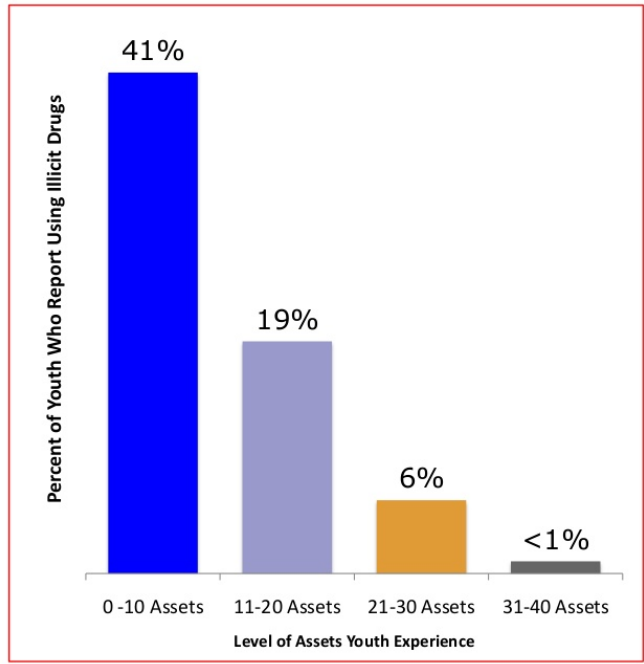
## Assets and health behaviors



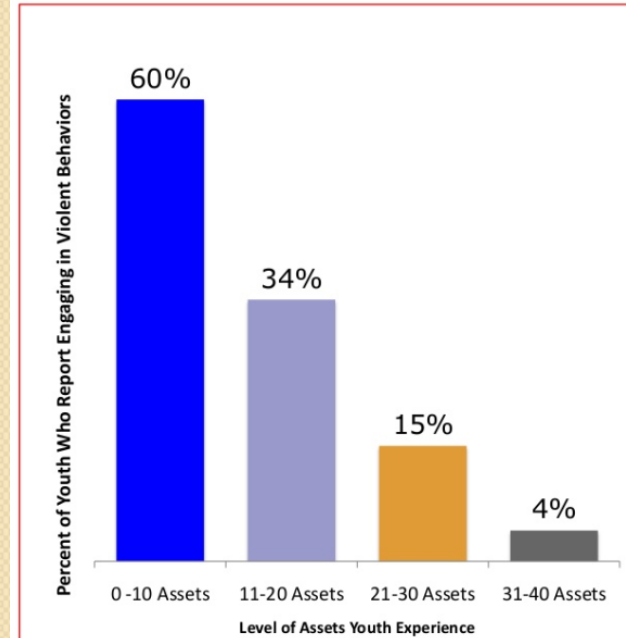
# The impact of assets

Repeat for literally every positive thing you can think to measure.

## Assets and drug use



## Assets and violence



# The impact of assets



# The assets in action

## External Assets



### Support

Youth reports 3 or more nonparent adults who they could go to for help.  
Youth reports positive communication with parents/ will ask parents for advice.  
Youth reports living in a caring neighborhood.



### Empowerment

Youth perceives that adults in the community value young people.



### Boundaries / Expectations

School and home provide clear rules and consequences.

Adults communicate high expectations for the youth.  
Adult role models and peers model positive behavior.



### Constructive Use of Time

Youth spends 3 or more hours/week in creative activities or lessons.

Youth spends 3 or more hours/week in organized clubs/sports.

Youth is out with friends with “nothing special to do” 2 nights or fewer/wk.

# The assets in action

## Internal Assets



### Commitment to Learning

Youth cares about their school.

Youth reads for fun 3 or more hours/wk.

Youth is motivated to do well in school.



### Positive Values

Youth places high value on helping other people.

Youth “tells the truth even when it is not easy.”

Youth acts on convictions and stands up for their beliefs.



### Social Competencies

Youth knows how to plan ahead and make choices.

Youth tries to resolve conflicts nonviolently.

Youth is comfortable with people from different ethnic backgrounds.



### Positive Identity









Youth feels in control over “things that happen to me.”

Youth reports “my life has a purpose.”

Youth is optimistic about their personal future.

# What do libraries provide?

Libraries offer:

-  Supportive adult relationships
-   Service to the community, sense of purpose, diversity
-  Adult role models, positive peer influence, high expectations
- 
-  Creative activities and youth programs
-   Reading for pleasure
- Responsibility and decision making

## Let's celebrate what we really



Teen volunteers rock! And they get cupcakes.

Summer Reading Week 6 Sebastopol Public Library



# How to measure your Asset impact:

- Pre- and post-program data collection, ideally from kids themselves
- Doesn't have to be complicated: candy wrappers work.
- Remember to ask about the things you want to celebrate!

Before the teen volunteer program, I thought adults in this town cared about kids:

1	2	3	4	5
False			True	

After the teen volunteer program, I think adults in this town care about kids:

1	2	3	4	5
False			True	



Volunteering a super-asset is! Proven to lead to protective levels of assets 3 years later it is...

# What you get:

You have successfully measured positive changes in attitudes, beliefs, and passions, which are proven to have positive impact in kids' lives.



# What you do with what you got:

- Report to stakeholders
- Apply for grants
- Complete grant reports
- Create new programs
- Publicize existing programs
- Build community partnerships



And the galaxy save, yessss....



# Get in contact!

- The Search Institute, at [www.search-institute.org](http://www.search-institute.org) - for publications, handouts for parents, research, and more
- Contact Kit: [kwardcrixell@cityofpt.us](mailto:kwardcrixell@cityofpt.us)

Thank you for your time!