

DEVELOPMENTAL ASSETS



CORE PILLAR

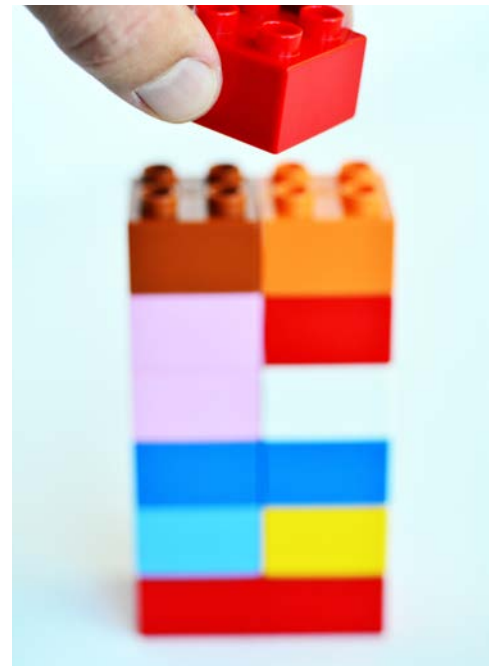
Focusing on abilities, strengths and talents in a nurturing environment!

WHAT ARE DEVELOPMENTAL ASSETS?

Developmental Assets are a list of 40 factors that contribute to a child's success as they grow up. The list was identified and compiled by Search Institute (a nonprofit research organization,) who for decades has been conducting studies on the healthy development of children. Their findings identify a set of skills, experiences, relationships, and behaviours that enable young people to develop into successful and contributing adults. The assets are both external (things that other people provide for youth) and internal (things that young people develop within themselves). There are four categories of external assets (Support, Empowerment, Boundaries and Expectations, and Constructive Use of Time,) and four categories of internal assets (Commitment to Learning, Positive Values, Social Competencies, Positive Identity.) The asset lists are adapted for each developmental age range, beginning in early childhood through to adolescence.

HOW ARE THEY USED AT CAA?

At CAA, we understand that children do well when they have a team of support behind them. The Developmental Assets framework informs and shapes how we engage with our community to provide both internal and external supports for our students. Our staff collaborate with each other, with the students' families, and with members outside of the school community to ensure that our students' strengths are identified and celebrated, and that they are continually supported to continue building the assets that will serve them well as they grow up. Students engage with the assets through regular circle meeting discussions about topics related to the assets as well as through art forms (such as drawing and drama) that are used to establish our pillars and culture at the start of each year.



LEARN MORE: Search Institute. (n.d.). *The Developmental Assets Framework*. <https://www.search-institute.org/our-research/development-assets/developmental-assets-framework/>