

The Power of Perspective:

Introduction to the 40 Developmental Assets

Perspective: The Art of Seeing

- ▶ *“Photography is an art of observation. It has little to do with the things you see and everything to do with the way you see them.” – Elliott Erwitt*

Youth Outcomes

- ▶ Prevention
 - Focus: Reduction of Risk
 - ▶ Achievement
 - Focus: Achievement of Milestones
 - ▶ Developmental
 - Focus: Development of Identity and Ability
- 

Looking for Loose Change

- ▶ <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IXPz1T-Kb0k>
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IXPz1T-Kb0k>

40 Developmental Asset Framework

- ▶ Tool for keeping our perspective
 - ▶ Benefits: Builds on strengths and capabilities – not deficits
 - ▶ Developed by Search Institute
- 

40 Developmental Asset Framework

- ▶ Research includes over 4 million youth worldwide
 - ▶ Not “culture bound”
 - ▶ Current research includes use of framework in:
 - 5 African countries,
 - Salvation Army community centers throughout the United States
- 

Overview of 40 Developmental Assets

- ▶ <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hPY67eea5h4>
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hPY67eea5h4>

40 Developmental Asset Framework

Table Talk

- ▶ What assets did you have as a child?
 - ▶ What is the average number of assets youth report in our country?
 - ▶ What do you think are the lowest reported assets? Highest?
- 

Asset Framework

- 20 External Assets

- Support
 - Empowerment
 - Boundaries and Expectations
 - Constructive Use of Time
- 

Asset Framework

▶ 20 Internal Assets

- Commitment to Learning
- Positive Values
- Social Competencies
- Positive Identify

Spark

The 41st Asset

- ▶ *Gut instinct*
- ▶ *Motivates and inspires*
- ▶ *Life-changing insight that confirms “my life has purpose”*
- ▶ *Authentic passion, talent, skill or dream*
- ▶ *Can be musical, athletic, intellectual, academic, relational*

“Sparks”

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bP89iBasyCE&list=PL6BCA3F003314510E>

Sparks

The 41st Asset

Table Talk –

Can you identify “sparks” exhibited by children in your program?

How can you foster “sparks?”



The Power of Perception

“If it is true that the observer affects the observed reality, then perhaps the greatest gift we can give is to see the beauty, magnificence, and divinity in each person we meet and every experience we have . . . and in doing so, call it forth and facilitate its full expression in each moment.”

– Divina del So