

**RANDOM THOUGHTS ON HOW BOY SCOUTING CAN HELP
CHURCHES DEVELOP ASSETS IN YOUTH**

Developmental Asset [Copyright ©1997 by Search Institute, 700 S 3 rd St., Ste 210, Minneapolis, MN 55415 www.search-institute.org 800-888-7828]	What this asset may look like when nurtured in a faith community [Take It to Heart. Copyright ©2000 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and Lutheran Brotherhood. Permission to use granted by E.L.C.A.]	Boy Scouts of America [Random thoughts by P.R.A.Y. on how the 40 assets relate to and are supported by the Boy Scout program.]
1. Family Support Family life provides high levels of love and support.	The congregational mission statement and program ministries focus on nurturing loving and caring lifestyles and relationships	Cub Scout Program: parents and kids working together.
2. Positive Family Communication Young person and her or his parents communicate positively, and young person is willing to seek advice and counsel from	Children, youth and adults are given opportunities to learn and model skills for healthy communication and grace-filled conflict resolution.	Cub Scout and Tiger Cub Programs: parents and kids work together.
3. Other Adult Relationships Young person receives support from three or more nonparent adults.	Adult members are actively involved in fulfilling their baptismal promise to welcome, encourage, and support children and their parents as members of God’s family.	Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster
4. Caring Neighborhood Young person experiences caring neighbors.	Inreach: All areas of ministry are committed to nurturing the needs and strengths of children, youth, and families. Outreach: The church is sensitive to the dynamics of the surrounding neighborhood and looks for ways to engage its neighbors in a family-friendly way.	Scouts part of organization in neighborhood
5. Caring School Climate School provides a caring, encouraging environment.	Members of the congregations work with local schools to ensure that they provide a safe and supportive environment for learning.	“Learning for Life” curriculum helps. Merit badge counselors are teachers.
6. Parent Involvement in Schooling Parent(s) are actively involved in helping young person succeed in school.	Parenting classes offer helps and encouragement for active involvement in the education of their children.	Scholarship merit badge helps
7. Community Values Youth Young person perceives that adults in the community value youth.	Children, youth and adults perceive that they are welcome, needed, and valued members of your faith community.	Adult leaders value youth
8. Youth as Resources Young people are given useful roles in the community.	The interests and gifts (talents and abilities) of children, youth, and adults are identified and nurtured through a variety of opportunities for leadership and involvement.	Patrol leaders are youth
9. Service to Others Young person serves in the community one hour or more per week.	There are on-going intergenerational and age-appropriate ways to reach out to others in the church and community.	Merit badges require service
10. Safety Young person feels safe at home, at school, and in the neighborhood.	Congregational policies for personal and physical safety are always considered in program planning, volunteer recruitment, and leadership development.	Kids are safe in scout unit

11. Family Boundaries Family has clear rules and consequences and monitors the young person's whereabouts.	There is a congregational commitment to model and teach children, youth, and adults the importance of rules, expectations, and accountability in relationships.	Scout Law and Oath (if family has same values)
12. School Boundaries School provides clear rules and consequences.	The congregation stays informed about and strives to support the goals, rules, and expectations of local schools, and works to create consistent boundaries in its own educational programs and events.	
13. Neighborhood Boundaries Neighbors take responsibility for monitoring young people's behavior.	Adult members of the congregation take initiative in affirming and monitoring the behavior of younger members.	Scout leaders set boundaries with youth
14. Adult Role Models Parent(s) and other adults model positive, responsible behavior.	Parents and other adults model lifestyles and behaviors that are Christ's style - caring, consistent, healthy, and responsible.	Scout leaders are good role models
15. Positive Peer Influence Young person's best friends model responsible behavior.	It is a congregational priority to exhibit a sense of unconditional love, support, and age-appropriate maturity.	Patrol members model responsible behavior
16. High Expectations Both parent(s) and teachers encourage the young person to do well.	Programs and relationships inspire a desire in children, youth, and adults to see themselves as uniquely gifted children of God.	Venturing helps teens have high expectations.
17. Creative Activities Young person spends three or more hours per week in lessons or practice in music, theater, or other arts.	There are ongoing opportunities to develop and encourage talents and interests in vocal and instrumental music, drama, and artistic expression.	Cubs and Scouts work on advancement.
18. Youth Programs Young person spends three or more hours per week in sports, clubs or organizations at school and/or in the community.	There are a variety of age-appropriate programs for meeting social, spiritual, recreational, athletic, and academic needs.	Camping songs, skits, etc. are creative.
19. Religious Community Young person spends one or more hours per week in activities in a religious institution.	Well-planned programs with youth and family-friendly schedules are offered on Sunday and other days. The settings for Christian education are unconditionally loving, supportive, and accepting. There is a strong partnership between the church and the home in fostering a child's social, emotional, and spiritual growth. Children, youth, parents and other members have a clear understanding of the goals, rules, and expectations of educational programs and events.	Religious emblems programs. Opening and closing worship.
20. Time At Home Young person is out with friends "with nothing special to do" two or fewer nights per week.	Children, youth, and adults appreciate the importance of leisure time at home. They also perceive the church as a safe and supervised "home away from home" to be with other members of God's family.	Merit badge work outside the troop
21. Achievement Motivation Young person is motivated to do well in school.	Congregations find ways to support children and youth in their school work. A focus on competition to "be the best" is replaced with an ongoing inspiration to "do their God-given best."	Learn discipline and study skills on Merit badges.
22. School Engagement Young person is actively engaged in learning.	Children, youth, and families are enthusiastic participants in educational programs.	Learning for Life program.

<p>23. Homework Young person reports doing at least one hour of homework every school day.</p>	<p>After-school study halls at church, guided by peer or adult tutors, nurture academic accountability and support.</p>	<p>Can help in discipline and study skills</p>
<p>24. Bonding to School Young person cares about her or his school.</p>	<p>Children and youth are encouraged to be active participants in their schools.</p>	
<p>25. Reading For Pleasure Young person reads for pleasure three or more hours per week.</p>	<p>Books and periodicals in the youth room and church library increase youth interest and involvement in reading.</p>	<p>Boy's Life magazine Reading merit badge</p>
<p>26. Caring Young person places high value on helping other people.</p>	<p>Children, youth and adults place a high value on helping others. They are engaged in ongoing acts of kindness.</p>	<p>Service projects</p>
<p>27. Equality and Social Justice Young person places high value on promoting equality and reducing hunger and poverty.</p>	<p>Children, youth and adults have a passion for fair and just treatment and care for all God's children.</p>	<p>Scouting for Food Patrol method</p>
<p>28. Integrity Young person acts on convictions and stands up for her or his beliefs.</p>	<p>Children, youth, and adults have a strong sense of what they believe and an inner strength and commitment to act accordingly.</p>	<p>Scout Oath and Law</p>
<p>29. Honesty Young person "tells the truth even when it is not easy."</p>	<p>Children, youth, and adults exhibit a growing interest and commitment to speak the truth in love.</p>	<p>Scout Law</p>
<p>30. Responsibility Young person accepts and takes personal responsibility.</p>	<p>Children, youth, and adults are accountable to themselves and others.</p>	<p>Scout Law & Oath Personal Management Merit badge</p>
<p>31. Restraint Young person believes it is important not to be sexually active or to use alcohol or other drugs.</p>	<p>A growing awareness of a lifestyle that's Christ's style empowers children, youth and families to refrain from unhealthy sexual and drug-related behavior.</p>	<p>"Drugs: A Deadly Game"</p>
<p>32. Planning and Decision Making Young person knows how to plan ahead and make choices.</p>	<p>Children, youth and adults express a growing maturity in their ability to plan ahead and make good choices, ever mindful of God's power to protect, guide and daily forgive them. They acknowledge God's presence in their daily walk.</p>	<p>Advancement sequences require planning. Patrol method.</p>
<p>33. Interpersonal Competence Young person has empathy, sensitivity, and friendship skills.</p>	<p>Inspired by 1 John 3:16-18 children, youth, and adults model a friendship, empathy and sensitivity to others they meet each day.</p>	<p>Patrol method teaching younger scouts.</p>
<p>34. Cultural Competence Young person has knowledge of and comfort with people of different cultural/racial/ethnic backgrounds.</p>	<p>Children, youth, and adults value a Christian understanding of age, gender, culture, and ethnic diversity. (Galatians 3:28)</p>	<p>Integrated troop Camp</p>
<p>35. Resistance Skills Young person can resist negative peer pressure and dangerous situations.</p>	<p>Children, youth and adults have been empowered and equipped with a strong confidence and ability to resist peer pressure and potentially dangerous situations.</p>	<p>Values in Scouting</p>
<p>36. Peaceful Conflict Resolution Young person seeks to resolve conflict nonviolently.</p>	<p>Children, youth, and adults have been equipped with peaceful, practical, grace-filled options for conflict resolution.</p>	<p>Patrol method Chaplain Aide</p>

37. Personal Power Young person feels he or she has control over “things that happen to me.”	Children, youth, and adults have been inspired with an appropriate understanding of Philippians 4:13: “I can do all things in him who strengthens me.”	Leadership development. Advancement
38. Self-esteem Young person reports having a high self-esteem.	Children, youth, and adults value themselves as baptized, loved, and forgiven children of God.	Advancement sequence
39. Sense of Purpose Young person reports that “my life has a purpose.”	Children, youth, and adults have a growing sense of vocation or purpose with age-appropriate understandings of 1 Corinthians 12:24-31.	Scout Oath and Law
40. Positive View of Personal Future Young person is optimistic about her or his personal future.	Children, youth and adults are optimistic about their future with age-appropriate understandings of Hebrews 12:1-2b. “We must keep our eyes on Jesus, who leads us and makes our life complete.”	Keeps kids looking toward future. Venturers & vocations

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