



Building the **Commitment-to-Learning Assets**

It is important for young people of all ages to value and have a commitment to lifelong learning. Here are ideas on how to build the five Commitment-to-Learning assets for children and youth at different ages:

Ages Birth to 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Give babies new, interesting things to look at, such as toys and books in different colors, shapes, and sizes.• Sing and read to babies every day.
Ages 1 to 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Take toddlers to new places, such as parks and stores.• Make up a game or song for children that teaches them the names of objects.
Ages 3 to 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Talk about what you see whenever you are with children and ask them to talk about what they see.• Visit libraries, zoos, museums—any places that give children new experiences.
Ages 6 to 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Set daily homework guidelines for children and provide a place for them to study.• Let children read to you every day as they learn to read. Show them that you are excited and proud about their reading.• Help children find ways to learn more about subjects that really interest them.
Ages 12 to 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Find creative ways to help young people link their interests with school subjects (such as doing special projects).• Encourage young people to collect things like stamps, postcards, leaves, dried flowers, or quotes they like. Contribute to their collections.• Ask young people to teach you a new skill or about a subject they're studying in school.
Ages 16 to 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Help teenagers think about their future goals and the discipline required to reach them.• Encourage teenagers to take an interesting community education class.• Place emphasis on lifelong learning and not just on graduation.