A Resilience Building Journey Promoting Resilience in Children in Child Welfare and the Adults Who Care For Them



CENTER FOR RESILIENT CHILDREN

"Overcoming the Odds"

"Resilient
youngsters....teach us
that competence,
confidence and caring
can flourish, even
under adverse
circumstances...

From odds successfully overcome springs **hope** - a gift each of us can share with a child."

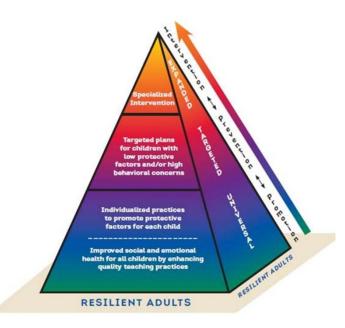
(Werner and Smith, 1992)



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Three-Tiered Approach



Intervention for those with specialized needs

Prevention for those at risk

Promotion of health & well being for all children

Public Health Model

Resilience: A Ray of Hope

Defining Resilience



The ability to recover from or adjust to misfortune or change

The ability to bounce back

"Overcoming the Odds"

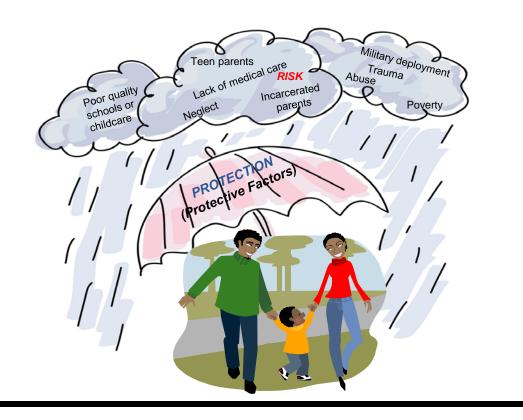
Protective Factors

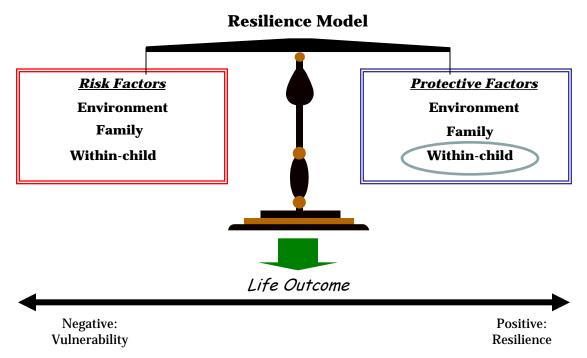
"Characteristics, events or processes that decrease the impact of a risk factor and the likelihood of an adverse outcome." (Kazdin, 1997)

Things that help guard children from unsafe or unhealthy influences

Help us overcome risk factors

- Emmy Werner Hawaii
- 500 plus children born at risk
- 30% at high risk
 - 2/3 had significant negative life problems
 - but 1/3 did not!
 - "lived well, loved well, played well & expected well"
- What characterized these children?

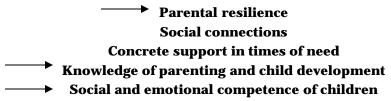




Strengthening Families Protective Factor Framework

Strengthening Families is a framework developed by the Center for the Study of Social Policy to prevent child abuse and neglect.

This approach helps child welfare systems, early education and other programs work with parents to build the following protective factors:



Research shows that infants, toddlers and young children need these 3 within-child protective factors...

Initiative Attachment/Relationships Self-regulation





Initiative

The child's ability to use independent thought and action to meet his or her needs.



- Show concern for other children
- Play make-believe
- Try to clean up after herself/himself
- Ask to do new things
- Try to do things for herself/himself



- Keep trying when unsuccessful
- Ask other children to play
- Try or ask to try new things
- Focus his/her attention or on a task or activity
- Say positive things about the future

Attachment/Relationships

The mutual, strong, long-lasting relationship between a child and significant adults such as parents, family members and teachers.

- Show affection for familiar adults
- Smile at familiar adults
- Seek comfort from familiar adults
- Reach for familiar adult

- Act happy or excited when parent/ guardian returns
- Trust familiar adults and believe what they say
- Seek help from children/adults when necessary

Self-Regulation

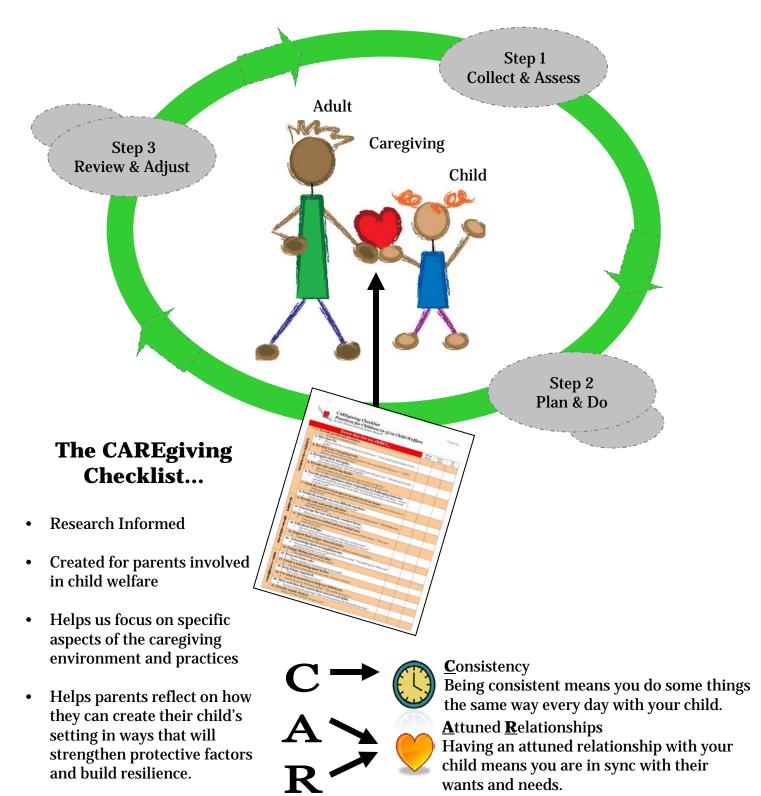
The child's ability to experience a range of feelings and express them using words and actions that society considers appropriate

- Handle frustration well
- Adjust to changes in routine
- Calm herself/himself
- Easily follow a daily routine

- Share with other children
- Calm self down when upset
- Listen to or respect others
- Accept another choice when first choice is unavailable

"Your Journey Together"

YJT is a strength-based curriculum for parents in the child welfare system to build resilience in their children and themselves



Environment

outside and in.

The environment includes having a safe, healthy and loving home setting both

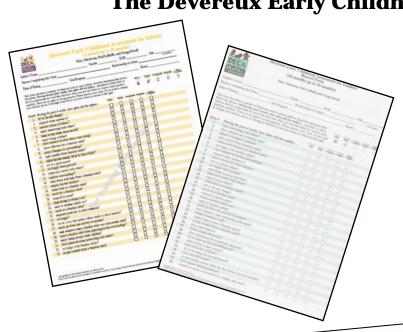


CAREgiving Checklist Practices for Children (o-5) in Child Welfare By: Mary Mackrain and Kristin Tenney- Blackwell

	Every day for my child I	Almost Always	Some- times	Not Yet
	1. Provide predictable routines.	1211495		
Consistency	 "It's time for our bedtime story." Stay close by. "This is a new store; I will hold you for awhile longer." "I can see you trying to figure out the puzzle." 			
	 3. Do what I say I am going to do. "I will be here to hold you when you wake from your nap-just like I always am." "I will be done in 3 minutes, let's set the timer." 			
i S	 4. Recognize their strengths. "You rolled over to get the ball, you work hard to get what you want." "You gave your friend a piece of your play dough, that was thoughtful." 			
ė	5. Provide safe and loving limits. That hurts daddy when you pull my hair, you can pull on the blanket." "It is not safe to run in the store; you can hold my hand or walk next to me."			
ÿ	6. Provide positive guidance when responding to challenging behavior. "I know you are feeling uncomfortable, I will rock you gently to help you calm down." "I know you feel upset that you can't climb on the table. I want to keep you safe, we can climb outside or go for a walk."			
	 7. Limit the number of caregivers in and out of our home. "Today your grandmother is going to be here for a few hours and then mommy will be home to put you to bed." 			
	8. Positively manage my own difficult emotions. "I feel frustrated, I need to take a few deep breaths."			
Ą	 9. Provide safe and gentle affection. "I'm gently patting your back and holding you, I hear you breathing calmly." "I like holding your hand when take a walk!" 			
Attuned	10. Encourage the use of favorite comfort items. "Do you want to bring your blanket to Aunt Maria's today?"			
	11. Am responsive to verbal and non-verbal cues. "I see you turning your head away from the spoon, you are all done eating." "I hear your words, tell me more."			
Relationships	12. Talk about feelings. "You are crying and rubbing your eyes, I think you are feeling tired." "You are angry that your friend took your toy, what should we do next?"			
	13. Support their unique characteristics. "I know you need a little time to say good-bye. I will stay another few minutes."			
	14. Acknowledge their accomplishments. "You crawled all the way to your big brother, you are so strong!" "You picked up your clothes and put them in the basket, way to go!"			
	15. Engage during one-on-one play. "I like playing this game with you, it's fun!"			
Environment	16. Keep our home safe. "This toy is broken so I am going to put it out of reach."			
	17. Create a welcoming space to live. "Yes, that is a photo of you and your sister when you were born."			
r	18. Keep things organized. "This is where we keep your clothes."			
ň	19. Use what is around us to help my child learn. "Look at the mirror, that's you smiling!" "Your toothbrush is green."			
ň	20. Have activities that match their interest and skills. "You love crinkling the paper bag!" "Here are the books from the library that you chose."			
	21. Provide simple choices. "Do you want the red ball or the green one?"			



The Devereux Early Childhood Assessment



The DECA I/T/P2 are strength-based instruments for assessing protective factors in children 4 weeks of age through 5 years.

They are standardized, normreferenced and reliable instruments.

For more info about our assessments, visit our website at

www.CenterForResilientChildren.org

Devereux Early Childhood Assessment for Preschoolers Second Edition (DECA-P2)

Second Editio	n (DE	1.5	rears)							
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in a way that made										
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7. keep trying when unsuccessful (2005) 8. seem uninterested in other children or adults? 8. seem uninterested or offensive language?										
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 9. use obscene gestures of one. 10. try different ways to solve a problem? 11. seem happy or excited to see his/her parent or guardian? 11. seem happy or excited to see his/her parent or guardian? 										
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12. destroy or damage property.13. try or ask to try new things or activities?				=	=					
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15. start or organize play William										
ac show natterice:										
16. show patience?17. ask adults to play with or read to him/her?18. have a short attention span (difficulty concentrating)?										
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handle frustration well.		7								
a havith other children.								6		
21. tight with other cry easily? 22. become upset or cry easily?	Γ							3		
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23. Show and believe what they are available and believe what they are available.	able?									

Devereux Adult Resilience Survey

AN INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your interest in the Devereux Adult Resilience Survey.

Authored by Mary Mackrain, the Devereux Adult Resilience Survey (DARS) is a 23-item reflective checklist that provides adults with information about their personal strengths. The information can be used to help individuals build on their strengths, such as creativity and setting limits, so that they can better cope with adversity and the stresses of daily life.

Statistical analysis shows that the DARS is an excellent tool for providing adults with an opportunity to gain valuable insights, particularly in these four areas:

<u>Relationships</u>: The mutual, long-lasting back-and-forth bond we have with another person in our lives.

<u>Internal Beliefs</u>: The feelings and thoughts we have about ourselves and our lives, and how effective we think we are at taking action in life.

<u>Initiative</u>: The ability to make positive choices and decisions and act upon them.

<u>Self-Control</u>: The ability to experience a range of feelings, and express them using the words and actions society considers appropriate.

The purpose of the DARS is not to compare individual's scores to the population, but to give adults the opportunity to become aware of personal strengths and areas of need. Upon completion of the DARS, individuals are encouraged to use the Building Your Bounce: Simple Strategies for a Resilient You Adult Journal. This journal provides suggested strategies for strengthening adults' protective factors shown to support resilience.

It takes a fair amount of reflection and practice to change any negative thoughts we might have and to integrate new behaviors that are good for us. You are worth it. Even if you are already a strong, happy person you will want to continue building yourself up to maintain or increase your level of well-being.

Best wishes on your personal journey.



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Relationships 1. I have good friends that support me. 2. I have a mentor or someone that shows me the way. 3. I provide support to others. 4. I am empathetic to others. 5. I trust my close friends. Internal Beliefs 1. My role as a caregiver is important. 2. I have personal strengths. 3. I am creative. 4. I have strong beliefs.	Almost Always Almost Always	Some- times Some- times	Not Yet
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2. I have personal strengths.3. I am creative.			
3. I am creative.			
4. I have strong beliefs.			
5. I am hopeful about the future.			
6. I am lovable.			
Initiative	Almost Always	Some- times	Not Yet
1. I communicate effectively with those around me.			
2. I try many different ways to solve a problem.			
3. I have a hobby that I engage in.			
4. I seek out new knowledge.			
5. I am open to new ideas.			
6. I laugh often.			
7. I am able to say "No."			
8. I can ask for help.			
Self-Control	Almost Always	Some- times	Not Yet
1. I express my emotions.	Invays	times	100
2. I set limits for myself.			
3. I am flexible.			
4. I can calm myself down.			
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