

TRAITS TEENS SHOULD LEARN ON THEIR WAY TO MATURITY

1. **Responsibility.** Realizing your actions always have consequence and making yourself accountable for what they are.
2. **Self-control.** Stopping to think what is a useful and suitable reaction in a given situation instead of just “popping-off.”
3. **Looking ahead.** Planning your life, not just around today’s pleasures, but in terms of next week, next month, next year.
4. **Understanding.** Learning what others think and feel, and having concern for their welfare.
5. **Motivation.** Developing goals in your life, as well as the desire to work hard for them.
6. **Decision making.** Learning to judge a situation and make an intelligent and appropriate choice by evaluating the pluses and minuses, including your own values.
7. **Love.** Learning to give as well as receive love, and to share closeness and true concern, tenderness and loyalty.
8. **Self-reliance.** When you have developed the other traits, you will have enough faith in your own judgment and ability to run your life well, without dependence on your parents or other adults.
9. **Confidence in oneself as an individual.** Mature people value their own selves well enough to believe strongly in their values and goals. They care what other people think, but not to the point where they can be pressured into behavior they don’t truly approve of for themselves.