

1. Promoting Positive Development Among Youth: Section 1

# Promoting Positive Development Among Youth - Section 1

Richard Lerner, Ph.D.  
Tufts University

(c) 2006, Richard Lerner, Ph.D.

2. Applied Developmental Science (ADS)

## Applied Developmental Science (ADS)

---

**DEFINITION:** The systematic synthesis of research and applications to describe, explain, and promote optimal developmental outcomes in individuals and families as they develop along the life-cycle.

**APPLIED:** Direct implications of what individuals, families, practitioners, and policy makers do.

**DEVELOPMENTAL:** Systematic and successive changes within human systems that occur across the life span.

**SCIENCE:** Grounded in a range of research methods designed to systematically collect reliable and objective information that can be used to test the validity of theory and applications.

(c) 2006, Richard Lerner, Ph.D.

3. The Scope of ADS Activities

## The Scope of ADS Activities

1. Conduct contextually sensitive research
2. Identify developmental correlates of social phenomena
3. Construct, administer, and evaluate developmental assessment instruments
4. Design, implement, evaluate developmental interventions
5. Disseminate knowledge and engage in community collaborations

(c) 2006, Richard Lerner, Ph.D.

4. Key Theoretical Tenets OF ADS

## Key Theoretical Tenets OF ADS

1. Development in context
2. The temporality of change
3. Interindividual differences and within person changes`
4. Science-based knowledge and intervention strategies
5. Normative developmental processes
6. Reciprocity between science and application

(c) 2006, Richard Lerner, Ph.D.