Promoting Resilience in Young People

Resilience is a key factor in the healthy development of young individuals, and as a professional, you play a crucial role in fostering it. Dr. Kenneth Ginsburg's Seven C's—Competence, Confidence, Connection, Character, Contribution, Coping, and Control—serve as a comprehensive framework for promoting resilience in young people. Here's a guide on how to implement these principles effectively:



Competence

- Invest in self-esteem: Encourage young people to explore and understand their identity and values. Help them recognize their unique strengths and talents.
- Encourage belief in abilities: Foster a mindset of self-belief. Encourage them to trust their capabilities and assure them that it's okay to face challenges—it's a part of growth.
- Learning from experiences: Cultivate a habit of reflection. Help them analyse their experiences, both successes, and setbacks, to extract valuable lessons for personal growth.





Confidence

- Positive relationships: Facilitate and encourage positive connections
 with friends and adults. These relationships provide a support system,
 reinforcing their sense of self-worth.
- Personal challenges: Support them in taking on personal challenges.
 Even if they don't succeed, emphasize the value of the learning experience, promoting resilience through setbacks.
- Use creativity to encourage problem-solving: Foster creativity by encouraging young people to think outside the box. This helps them develop adaptive problem-solving skills, a crucial aspect of resilience.



Connection

- Build positive relationships: Help young people establish and nurture positive connections with peers and adults. These relationships provide a sense of belonging and support.
- Open communication: Create an environment where they feel comfortable expressing their thoughts and emotions. Actively listen and validate their feelings.
- Identify support networks: Assist young individuals in identifying and strengthening their support networks. Knowing they have a reliable support system enhances their ability to bounce back from challenges.









Character

- Values and morals: Encourage the development of a strong moral compass. Discuss values and ethical principles, helping them make choices aligned with their character.
- Model integrity: Demonstrate integrity in your actions and decisions.
 Serve as a positive role model for them to emulate.



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Contribution

- Community engagement: Foster a sense of social responsibility by encouraging involvement in community activities. Volunteering and contributing to others can enhance their sense of purpose.
- Encourage teamwork: Highlight the importance of collaboration and working towards common goals. This reinforces a sense of belonging and shared achievement.



Coping

- Emotional management: Assist them in understanding, expressing, and managing their emotions constructively. Provide coping mechanisms for dealing with stress and adversity.
- Resilience through challenges: Emphasize the importance of facing challenges head-on. Assist them in developing coping strategies that promote resilience in the face of setbacks.
- Promote mindfulness: Introduce mindfulness practices to help them stay present and manage stress. Mindfulness techniques can enhance emotional regulation and overall well-being.
- Self-care habits: Emphasize the significance of self-care. Encourage
 healthy habits such as adequate sleep, regular exercise, and nutritious
 eating to support their physical and mental well-being.





Control

- Independence: Foster independence in both actions and thoughts.
 Help them develop decision-making skills, enabling them to take control of their lives.
- Goal setting: Guide them in setting SMART goals—Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound. Maintaining routines provides a sense of structure and control.
- Adaptability: Teach the importance of adaptability in the face of change. Life is unpredictable, and being flexible in their approach can help them navigate uncertainties.
- Cultivate a growth mindset: Instill a mindset of continuous learning.
 Emphasize that mistakes are opportunities for growth, and learning is a lifelong journey.







