

Name _____

The Influence of Role Models on Adolescent Development

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Having a positive role model can help adolescents when facing challenges because they provide a source of inspiration and guidance. Positive role models often share their experiences in overcoming difficulties, which can motivate adolescents to persevere and develop problem-solving skills. Additionally, positive role models can offer emotional support and teach resilience, helping adolescents bounce back from setbacks.
2. Parents and teachers can play a significant role in helping adolescents choose appropriate role models by engaging in open discussions about role models' values and behaviors. They can guide adolescents in critical thinking about their role models and provide alternatives if needed. Parents and teachers can also serve as positive role models themselves, demonstrating the values and behaviors they wish to instill in adolescents.
3. Besides family members and teachers, other potential role models for adolescents can include community leaders, athletes, artists, scientists, or individuals who have made positive contributions to society. These role models can inspire adolescents in various aspects of life and career choices.
4. It's important for adolescents to develop their own values and goals while being inspired by role models because it allows them to have a sense of autonomy and individuality. While role models can provide guidance and inspiration, adolescents should ultimately make choices that align with their unique personalities and aspirations. Developing their values and goals empowers adolescents to make independent decisions and take ownership of their lives, while still benefiting from the positive influences of role models.

