

Course Title:	8th Grade FCS: Survival Skills
Grade(s):	8

Course Description
This semester-long, every-other-day class is taught with the CTE (Career Tech Ed) mindset, that the student might want to pursue these interest areas as a college or career opportunity, while teaching them that living on their own in the future needs to be given thought and consideration, focusing on child interaction and money management. The classroom is set up to integrate hands-on learning experiences aligned with the high school's Child Development and Financial Literacy classes. Instruction is divided between child development activities and financial literacy concepts, allowing students to apply both skill sets in meaningful contexts. Guest speakers and a field trip are included to immerse the students in authentic learning. This class meets for approximately 45 days.
Approved Curricular Materials/Textbook(s)

Unit Title	Unit Description (Include Unit Objectives)	Unit Pacing
Unit 1: Introductions and Expectations	This unit establishes clear expectations and promotes student responsibility through structured roles. Learning Targets • I can understand and perform my assigned classroom job responsibilities. • I can explain and follow classroom expectations. • I can review, sign, and commit to classroom expectations and agreements. • I can participate in team-building activities to build positive relationships with my classmates.	3 classes
Unit 2: Child Safety	In this unit, students learn about child safety.	6 classes

	Learning Targets: • I can explain that most accidents can be prevented through awareness, education, and safe practices. • I can identify ways to childproof a home and recognize safety risks in both indoor and outdoor environments. • I can understand the purpose of public service announcements (PSAs) and describe their key components. • I can create a child safety PSA that communicates important safety information effectively. • I can choose an appropriate format to design and present my child safety PSA.	
Unit 3: Egg Baby and Domains & Milestones	This unit explores early childhood development by examining developmental milestones and the major domains of growth. Students apply their understanding through the Egg Baby Project, which simulates the responsibility of caring for a young child. Learning Targets: • I can explain the responsibilities involved in caring for younger children and identify key developmental milestones. • I can identify and describe the different domains of child development. • I can categorize observed behaviors into the correct developmental domains. • I can demonstrate my understanding of developmental domains and milestones through the Egg Baby Project and related handouts. • I can design and care for a simulated “egg baby” to demonstrate responsibility for maintaining a fragile item over time.	10 classes
Unit 4: Read Aloud at McAlister	The goal of this unit is to increase literacy, interpersonal, and communication skills. Learning Targets: • I can read aloud confidently and clearly to 3rd-grade students within our community from a chosen picture book. • I can use effective questioning techniques while reading to encourage discussion and understanding.	6 classes

	• I can strengthen my interpersonal skills through positive interaction with younger students.	
Unit 5: Cooking on a Budget	This unit focuses on food preparation, cost analysis, and practical decision-making through hands-on cooking experiences. Learning Targets: • I can calculate the cost of recipes and evaluate whether they are worth preparing based on price, nutrition, and quality. • I can prepare simple recipes such as two-ingredient bagels, quesadillas, and French toast sticks while considering nutrition and cost. • I can prepare personal pizzas and explain how making food from scratch can be cost-effective. • I can learn from a community guest speaker (banker) and apply their demonstration to make pizza dough and pizzas. The guest speaker focuses on how inexpensive it is to make your own. • I can plan, budget, and prepare a seasonal treat that is safe and appealing for 7-year-old children while demonstrating teamwork and creativity. • I can compare name-brand and store-brand products and explain how store brands can save money without sacrificing taste or quality. NOTE: This unit is not taught all at once; it is integrated throughout another unit.	10 classes
Unit 6: Financial Literacy	This unit introduces students to foundational financial literacy skills through real-world applications and community guest speakers from the banking industry. Students learn how to read receipts, understand banking services such as debit and credit, and recognize financial safety practices, including fraud prevention. Learning Targets: • I can read and interpret a receipt and apply the information to complete financial literacy activities. • I can compare and contrast debit and credit using a Venn Diagram with the help of a community banking guest speaker. • I can take guided notes and engage in discussions about banking fraud and ways to protect my finances. • I can understand budgeting concepts through guided notes and participate	10 classes

	in a simulation activity to practice real-world money management. • I can explain the concept of interest based on instructions from a banking professional. • I can apply financial literacy skills through online simulations and activities from real-world financial organizations. NOTE: This unit is not taught all at once; it is integrated throughout another unit.	
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