The Seven Essential Life Skills Every Child Needs is an evidenced-based list of skills that are essential for children in the short- and long-term. These skills are called life skills because of their powerful potential to help children succeed socially, emotionally and intellectually in the short- and long-term. These are skills that every adult can teach and every child can learn. In addition, it is never too late to learn these skills.

1. Focus and Self Control
Children need this skill in order to achieve their goals, especially in a world that is filled with distractions and information overload. It involves paying attention, remembering the rules, thinking flexibly and exercising self-control.

2. Perspective Taking
Perspective Taking goes far beyond empathy: it involves figuring out what others think and feel, and forms the basis of children understanding their parents’, teachers’, and friends’ intentions. Children who can take others’ perspectives are also much less likely to get involved in conflicts.

3. Communicating
Communicating is much more than understanding language, speaking, reading and writing – it is the skill of determining what one wants to communicate and realizing how our communications will be understood by others. It is the skill that teachers and employers feel is most lacking today.

4. Making Connections
Making Connections is at the heart of learning—figuring out what’s the same, what’s different and sorting these things into categories. Making unusual connections is at the core of creativity. In a world where people can google for information, it is the people who can see the connections who are able to go beyond knowing information to using this information well.

5. Critical Thinking
Critical Thinking is the ongoing search for valid and reliable knowledge to guide beliefs, decisions, and actions.

6. Taking On Challenges
Life is full of stresses and challenges. Children who are willing to take on challenges (instead of avoiding them or simply coping with them) do better in school and in life.

7. Self-Directed, Engaged Learning
It is through learning that we can realize our potential. As the world changes, so can we, for as long as we live—as long as we learn.

For more information on Mind in the Making, please visit [http://mindinthemaking.org/](http://mindinthemaking.org/)
**Trainings and Important Information**

**First Aid/CPR ($31)**
Participants will receive First Aid/CPR/Fire Extinguisher training and cards.

Training dates: June 14th, July 12th, August 9th, September 13th, October 11th, and November 8th, 2018 from 6:30-9pm

Location: at the Early Learning Coalition of Seminole 280 Hunt Park Cove Suite 1020 Longwood, FL 32750

Register at www.SeminoleEarlyLearning.org under Training

**Transportation Training**
This training is free and providers will receive a 2 hour in-service training certificate.

Training Date: August 16, 2018 from 6pm-8pm at Orange Technical College-Orlando Campus at 301 W. Amelia Street, Orlando, FL 32801

Please call 407-317-7820 to register for this training!

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Please visit the following websites for the Florida Department of Children and Families new handbooks and rule changes

Facility:

FDCH:

School Age Only:

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**SCPS DINING SERVICES PROVIDING SUMMER BREAKSPOT MEALS**

Seminole County Public Schools’ (SCPS) Dining Services Department will be participating in the Summer Food Service Program during the months of May, June, July and August at various Summer BreakSpot locations. The Summer BreakSpots are at locations with corresponding enrichment activities, including the public library, select SCPS schools and recreation centers.

Nutritionally balanced meals will be provided to all children, 18 years old and younger, at no charge regardless of race, color, sex, disability, age or national origin during summer vacation when school breakfasts and lunches are not available.

To find a Summer BreakSpot location near you, visit the SCPS Dining Services website at diningservices.scps.us/summer for an interactive map of serving locations, times, dates and menus or call SCPS Dining Services at 407-320-0226 for more information.
Kid Fun: How to Make Super-Easy Ice Cream in a Bag

By Vanessa Greaves at dish.allrecipes.com/how-to-make-ice-cream-in-a-bag/

It’s a dessert! It’s a science project!! It’s a cool fun way for kids during this warm Florida weather! Let the kids shake up their own ice cream and sneak in a little learning while they are at it 😊

Ingredients:
- 2 cups heavy whipping cream
- 2 cups half-and-half cream
- ½ cup white sugar
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1 bag crushed ice
- 4 cups coarse salt

(This no cook recipe makes about eight half-cup servings)

For each child, you’ll need:
- 2 pint-size resealable plastic freezer bags
- 1 gallon-size resealable plastic freezer bag
- Gloves or towel to protect fingers

Directions:
1. In a pitcher or large measuring cup, stir together the whipping cream, half-and-half cream, sugar, and vanilla extract until sugar has dissolved.
2. Pour about ½ cup of mixture into the pint-size plastic bag and seal carefully, squeezing out extra air. Place each sealed back into a second pint-sized bag, again squeezing out extra air. Seal carefully!
3. Fill each gallon-size plastic bag about halfway with ice and add ½ cup coarse salt. Place one sealed small bag in to the large bag, squeeze out most of the air, and seal the large bag.
4. Wear mittens or thick gloves, or wrap the bag in a towel to protect hands against the extreme cold. Shake and massage the bag for about 5 minutes or until the mixture thickens into ice cream. Add more salt and ice to the outer bag if ice cream hasn’t formed after 10 minutes of continuous motion.
5. Remove the out pin-size bag before you open the inner bag so you don’t get any salty ice on your ice cream!

How does it work?
The Science of Salt: Salt lowers the freezing point of the ice and creates an extra-cold brine that absorbs heat from the milk mixture, causing the mixture to freeze.

What’s Shaking?
This motion creates smoother ice cream by breaking up large ice crystals and allows the ice cream to freeze uniformly.

Beyond Vanilla:
- You can customize your ice cream before or after the big shake up by adding flavored syrups, bits of fruit, crushed cookies, or small candies.
- If you add extra stuff to the ice cream after you shake it up, be sure to fold in the ingredients gently or you might end up with ice cream soup!