

Teen Connections

Teen Connections is designed for students in Grade 8. Teen Connections may be taught as a 70- or 140-hour course. For a 70-hour course, content standards 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 13, 14, 16, 18, and 20 must be taught. Topics focus on teen connections in the home, school, and community. Course content provides opportunities for students to explore personal development; the impact of values, goals, decision making, and time management; conflict resolution; identifying family structures; member's roles and responsibilities; changes and challenges faced throughout the family life cycle; health, wellness, and a healthy appearance; money management and teen consumer decisions; teen clothing decisions; stages of child development; first aid techniques; organizing and maintaining teen living space; home safety; technology; and skills needed for workplace success.

Career and technical student organizations are integral, cocurricular components of each career and technical education course. These organizations serve as a means to enhance classroom instruction while helping students develop leadership abilities, expand workplace-readiness skills, and broaden opportunities for personal and professional growth.

Personal Connections

Students will:

1. Describe how physical, social, emotional, and intellectual changes that occur during adolescence affect self-esteem and self-concept.
2. Analyze interpersonal skills needed by teenagers for success in the home, school, and community, including respecting self and others, resolving conflict, responding to peer pressure, and communicating with others.
3. Explain the impact of values, goals, and decision making on teenagers.
4. Demonstrate socially acceptable behavior of teenagers, including practicing manners, etiquette, and grooming habits.
5. Identify various family structures.
Examples: nuclear, blended, extended, single-parent
 - Recognizing how individual roles and responsibilities in the home contribute to family well-being
 - Describing changes and challenges faced throughout the family life cycle
6. Describe the importance of teen development of time management skills.

Food and Wellness Connections

7. Evaluate the relationship among nutrition, exercise, and rest in maintaining wellness.
 - Identifying health hazards susceptible to teens
 - Identifying safe methods for teens to maintain an optimum weight

8. Demonstrate the ability to select, store, prepare, and serve nutritious foods.
 - Exhibiting safe and correct use of kitchen equipment
 - Applying safety and sanitation procedures in food preparation
 - Utilizing guidelines for table setting

Consumer Connections

9. Explain the importance of money management for teens.
 - Creating a budget for teen expenditures and savings
10. Critique factors that influence individual and teen consumer decisions, including needs and wants, budget limitations, and quality of products.
 - Describing store policies affecting teen consumers
 - Explaining ways to resolve teen consumer problems
11. Describe strategies for comparison shopping among teens.

Clothing Connections

12. Describe influences of style, fads, and fashion trends in clothing selection of teenagers.
13. Demonstrate basic sewing construction skills to complete a project.
 - Utilizing sewing equipment in a safe and correct manner
14. Explain ways to maintain and care for clothing.
 - Demonstrating simple clothing repairs

Child Care Connections

15. Compare stages of child development.
 - Identifying age-appropriate child care skills
 - Developing a list of responsibilities for a caregiver
 - Analyzing ways to guide the behavior of children
16. Explain ways to handle emergencies, including first aid techniques for children.

Housing Connections

17. Demonstrate methods to maintain a clean home.
 - Identifying home sanitation, safety, and security practices
 - Developing a first aid, fire, and weather home-safety plan
18. Demonstrate strategies used for the selection and arrangement of furniture and accessories in a teenager's living space.

Technology and Career Connections

19. Describe the impact of technology on individuals and families.
20. Describe career skills needed for the workplace, including time management and teamwork.
Examples: interview skills, completion of job applications