

# The Nine Essential Skills of Halloween

The Canadian government recognizes nine essential skills that are used in nearly every occupation and throughout daily life in different ways and at different levels of complexity. The nine skills are: reading text, document use, numeracy, writing, oral communication, working with others, continuous learning, thinking skills, and computer use. We use these skills every day, even holidays!



<b>Reading Text:</b>	Start reading Salem's Lot, get too scared to fall asleep, and borrow your teen's copy of Twilight (then fall asleep).
<b>Document Use:</b>	Use a map to plot the most efficient route to the most generous houses in the neighborhood.
<b>Numeracy:</b>	Calculate how many minutes you have to work out to burn off the calories in the 14 mini chocolate bars you just ate.
<b>Writing:</b>	Write a note to your child's teacher because she is missing school with a tummy ache from too much candy.
<b>Oral Communication:</b>	Try to convince your kids that they won't actually like Caramilk bars, and should just give them all to you.
<b>Working With Others:</b>	Negotiate with the other parents so that you don't get stuck being the one taking seven 5-year-olds trick-or-treating in the rain.
<b>Continuous Learning:</b>	Try to remember what you learned in grade 8 sewing class, google "how to sew", call your mother and ask how to set a collar, and finally beg your neighbour to finish the Dr. Horrible lab coat your partner <i>had</i> to have for Halloween.
<b>Thinking Skills:</b>	Plan how to decorate the house with more spiderwebs, tombstones and pumpkins than your neighbor, without breaking your neck on a stepladder.
<b>Computer Use:</b>	Google "how to make a meat dress" so you can be Lady Gaga for Halloween.