

The Infamous Skittles Scenario

THE SCENARIO: You are the only known survivors of a nuclear holocaust (that is to say, there's been a big nuclear war and almost certainly everyone is dead but you and your fellow SEGL students). This building (including its front steps and side parking lot) is your fallout shelter—you will die if you leave this area. Your task is simple: to survive.

The only way to survive is to consume 10 "resources" by the end of the simulation. Resources (food, water, shelter, medicine, etc.) are represented by Skittles (one Skittle=one resource), which have been hidden all around the "fallout shelter." Resources are consumed, of course, by eating Skittles (if you don't like Skittles, or can't eat them right now, you may "consume" them by throwing them in the garbage). Each of you will start out with a random number of Skittles. You may wait to eat your Skittles or eat them right away.

Here's the catch: As the simulation progresses, you will be given 3x5 "Chance" cards which will alter your situation in some way—sometimes negative, sometimes positive. It is ESSENTIAL that you follow the directions on the cards. DO NOT CHEAT. The first person to see a card must take it. Cards should only be used once and then put away.

OTHER RULES:

- Do not try to figure out the purpose of the simulation as you go. Just do it.
- No one exists except for you and your fellow SEGL students for the duration of the simulation. Politely ignore everyone else.
- That includes me. Do not speak to me, or make funny comments about how you got the Chance cards.
- Do not go into faculty file cabinets, or any room with the door closed and the lights off (for example, the Science Room or faculty offices). Do not close open doors.
- Do NOT follow me around; do not run away from me.
- Do not make up your own cards; do not make up your own rules.
- Remember Rule #3.

The simulation will take about 40 minutes. I will tell you when it is over. Have fun.

Sample Chance Card:

You have just fallen and broken your leg. Sit down exactly where you are and remain there until you eat five skittles. Add five Skittles to your total needed to survive.