



SEEDLYNG

(2ND-4TH GRADE) SMART SPENDING: MAKING WISE CHOICES WITH YOUR MONEY



LESSON OBJECTIVES

STUDENTS WILL UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF MAKING SMART SPENDING DECISIONS AND WILL LEARN TO PRIORITIZE THEIR SPENDING BY SETTING FINANCIAL GOALS AND CREATING A BUDGET.

LEARNING STANDARDS

THIS LESSON IS ALIGNED WITH THE COUNCIL FOR ECONOMIC EDUCATION STANDARDS, SPECIFICALLY STANDARD 3: CHOOSING AND MANAGING MONEY, AND STANDARD 5: ROLE OF MONEY.

LESSON STEPS

ENGAGE: BEGIN BY ASKING STUDENTS TO THINK ABOUT THEIR FAVORITE THINGS TO BUY OR DO, AND TO MAKE A LIST OF THESE ITEMS. ASK THEM HOW THEY WOULD FEEL IF THEY WERE NOT ABLE TO BUY THESE ITEMS OR DO THESE THINGS ANYMORE. THIS WILL HELP TO SHOW THEM THE IMPORTANCE OF MAKING SMART SPENDING DECISIONS.

EXPLORE: GIVE EACH STUDENT A SMALL AMOUNT OF PLAY MONEY AND HAVE THEM USE IT TO “BUY” ITEMS FROM A PRETEND STORE OR CATALOG. HAVE THEM KEEP TRACK OF HOW MUCH MONEY THEY SPEND AND HOW MUCH MONEY THEY HAVE LEFT.

EXPLAIN: AFTER THE EXPLORATION ACTIVITY, DISCUSS THE RESULTS AS A CLASS. ASK STUDENTS TO TALK ABOUT THEIR SPENDING CHOICES AND WHY THEY MADE CERTAIN PURCHASES. USE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO INTRODUCE THE CONCEPT OF SETTING FINANCIAL GOALS AND CREATING A BUDGET.

ELABORATE: PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH A WORKSHEET TO HELP THEM CREATE A BUDGET. THE WORKSHEET SHOULD INCLUDE SECTIONS FOR INCOME, SAVINGS, AND SPENDING CATEGORIES (SUCH AS FOOD, ENTERTAINMENT, AND CLOTHING). HAVE STUDENTS USE THEIR PLAY MONEY TO FILL IN THE WORKSHEET AND TALK ABOUT THE CHOICES THEY MADE.

EVALUATE: HAVE STUDENTS SHARE THEIR BUDGET WITH A PARTNER AND DISCUSS THEIR SPENDING DECISIONS. ASK STUDENTS TO REFLECT ON WHAT THEY LEARNED ABOUT SETTING FINANCIAL GOALS AND MAKING WISE SPENDING CHOICES.

RESOURCES REQUIRED

PLAY MONEY, PRETEND STORE OR CATALOG ITEMS, BUDGET WORKSHEET

EXTENSION ACTIVITY

HAVE STUDENTS CREATE A PLAN TO SAVE UP FOR A SPECIFIC ITEM THEY WANT TO PURCHASE, SUCH AS A TOY OR A TRIP. HAVE THEM TRACK THEIR PROGRESS AND PRESENT THEIR PLAN TO THE CLASS.





SEEDLYNG

(6TH-8TH GRADE) THE POWER OF PRIORITIZING:
MAKING SMART SPENDING DECISIONS



LESSON OBJECTIVES

STUDENTS WILL UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF SETTING FINANCIAL GOALS AND MAKING SMART SPENDING DECISIONS, AND WILL LEARN TO PRIORITIZE THEIR SPENDING BY CREATING A BUDGET AND MAKING TRADE-OFFS.

LEARNING STANDARDS

THIS LESSON IS ALIGNED WITH THE COUNCIL FOR ECONOMIC EDUCATION STANDARDS, SPECIFICALLY STANDARD 3: CHOOSING AND MANAGING MONEY, AND STANDARD 5: ROLE OF MONEY.

LESSON STEPS

1. **ENGAGE:** BEGIN BY SHOWING A SLIDESHOW OF POPULAR NBA AND NFL PLAYERS, POP MUSIC ARTISTS, AND OTHER CELEBRITIES AND THE LUXURIES THEY CAN AFFORD DUE TO THEIR SUCCESSFUL CAREERS. ASK STUDENTS TO THINK ABOUT WHAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO SPEND THEIR MONEY ON IN THE FUTURE AND WRITE DOWN THEIR GOALS.
2. **EXPLORE:** DIVIDE STUDENTS INTO SMALL GROUPS AND GIVE EACH GROUP A SCENARIO WHERE THEY HAVE A LIMITED AMOUNT OF MONEY TO SPEND ON VARIOUS ITEMS AND EXPERIENCES. HAVE THEM WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE TRADE-OFF DECISIONS AND PRIORITIZE THEIR SPENDING BASED ON THEIR GOALS AND VALUES.
3. **EXPLAIN:** AFTER THE EXPLORATION ACTIVITY, DISCUSS THE RESULTS AS A CLASS. ASK STUDENTS TO TALK ABOUT THE TRADE-OFF DECISIONS THEY MADE AND WHY THEY MADE THEM. USE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO INTRODUCE THE CONCEPT OF CREATING A BUDGET AND SETTING FINANCIAL GOALS.
4. **ELABORATE:** PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH A BUDGETING WORKSHEET THAT INCLUDES SECTIONS FOR INCOME, SAVINGS, AND SPENDING CATEGORIES (SUCH AS HOUSING, FOOD, ENTERTAINMENT, AND TRANSPORTATION). HAVE STUDENTS USE THE WORKSHEET TO CREATE A BUDGET BASED ON A HYPOTHETICAL SALARY OR ALLOWANCE.
5. **EVALUATE:** HAVE STUDENTS DISCUSS THEIR BUDGETS WITH A PARTNER AND TALK ABOUT THE TRADE-OFF DECISIONS THEY MADE. ASK STUDENTS TO REFLECT ON WHAT THEY LEARNED ABOUT SETTING FINANCIAL GOALS AND MAKING WISE SPENDING CHOICES.

RESOURCES REQUIRED

BUDGETING WORKSHEET, SCENARIO CARDS, SLIDESHOW OF POPULAR NBA AND NFL PLAYERS, POP MUSIC ARTISTS, AND OTHER CELEBRITIES.

EXTENSION ACTIVITY

HAVE STUDENTS RESEARCH THE SALARIES OF POPULAR NBA AND NFL PLAYERS AND COMPARE THEM TO THE AVERAGE INCOME IN THEIR AREA. HAVE STUDENTS USE THIS INFORMATION TO CREATE A BUDGET FOR A HYPOTHETICAL PLAYER, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THEIR INCOME AND EXPENSES.





SEEDLYNG

(9TH-12TH GRADE) THE ART OF BUDGETING:
REAL WORLD EXAMPLES AND STRATEGIES FOR



LESSON OBJECTIVES

STUDENTS WILL UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF BUDGETING AND MAKING SMART SPENDING DECISIONS, AND WILL BE ABLE TO CREATE A BUDGET THAT ALIGNS WITH THEIR FINANCIAL GOALS AND REAL WORLD SCENARIOS.

LEARNING STANDARDS

COUNCIL FOR ECONOMIC EDUCATION, NATIONAL STANDARDS IN K-12 PERSONAL FINANCE EDUCATION

LESSON STEPS

- 1. ENGAGEMENT:** BEGIN THE LESSON BY ASKING STUDENTS ABOUT THEIR SPENDING HABITS AND GOALS. LEAD A DISCUSSION ON THE IMPORTANCE OF MAKING SMART SPENDING DECISIONS AND THE ROLE OF BUDGETING IN ACHIEVING FINANCIAL SUCCESS. USE REAL-WORLD SCENARIOS, SUCH AS MANAGING STUDENT LOAN DEBT OR SAVING FOR A DOWN PAYMENT ON A HOUSE, TO DEMONSTRATE THE RELEVANCE OF BUDGETING FOR YOUNG ADULTS.
- 2. EXPLANATION:** INTRODUCE THE CONCEPT OF BUDGETING AND THE BASIC COMPONENTS OF A BUDGET (INCOME, EXPENSES, SAVINGS). DISCUSS DIFFERENT TYPES OF EXPENSES, SUCH AS FIXED, VARIABLE, AND DISCRETIONARY EXPENSES. USE REAL-WORLD EXAMPLES OF CELEBRITIES AND PRO ATHLETES WHO PRIORITIZE THEIR SPENDING AND BUDGET REGULARLY TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF BUDGETING FOR ACHIEVING FINANCIAL SUCCESS.
- 3. EXPLORATION:** HAVE STUDENTS CALCULATE THEIR MONTHLY INCOME AND EXPENSES USING A BUDGET WORKSHEET. ENCOURAGE THEM TO THINK CRITICALLY ABOUT THEIR SPENDING HABITS AND TO IDENTIFY AREAS WHERE THEY COULD MAKE CHANGES TO ALIGN WITH THEIR FINANCIAL GOALS. USE REAL-WORLD SCENARIOS, SUCH AS MANAGING UNEXPECTED EXPENSES OR ADJUSTING A BUDGET FOR CHANGES IN INCOME, TO PROVIDE CONTEXT FOR THE IMPORTANCE OF REGULARLY REVIEWING AND ADJUSTING A BUDGET.
- 4. EXPLANATION:** HAVE STUDENTS CREATE A BUDGET BASED ON THEIR INCOME AND EXPENSES. EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF REGULARLY REVIEWING AND ADJUSTING THEIR BUDGET TO ENSURE THEY ARE STAYING ON TRACK AND MAKING SMART SPENDING DECISIONS. USE REAL-WORLD EXAMPLES OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE SUCCESSFULLY MANAGED THEIR FINANCES THROUGH BUDGETING TO DEMONSTRATE THE IMPACT OF BUDGETING ON ACHIEVING FINANCIAL GOALS.
- 5. EVALUATION:** HAVE STUDENTS PRESENT THEIR BUDGETS TO THE CLASS AND DISCUSS THEIR FINANCIAL GOALS AND THE STRATEGIES THEY WILL USE TO ACHIEVE THEM. PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEER FEEDBACK AND REFLECTION ON THE PROCESS OF BUDGETING AND MAKING SMART SPENDING DECISIONS.

RESOURCES REQUIRED

- BUDGETING WORKSHEET

EXTENSION ACTIVITY

HAVE STUDENTS RESEARCH AND PRESENT ON REAL-WORLD SCENARIOS AND FINANCIAL CHALLENGES FACED BY YOUNG ADULTS, SUCH AS MANAGING STUDENT LOAN DEBT OR SAVING FOR RETIREMENT. ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO THINK CRITICALLY ABOUT HOW BUDGETING CAN HELP ADDRESS THESE CHALLENGES AND ACHIEVE FINANCIAL GOALS.

NOTES





MONTHLY BUDGET

MONTH OF

INCOME			
DATE	SOURCE	CATEGORY	AMOUNT

BILLS & FIXED EXPENSES		
DATE	SOURCE	AMOUNT

VARIABLE EXPENSES		
DATE	SOURCE	AMOUNT

SUMMARY	
SOURCE	AMOUNT
INCOME	
BILLS & FIXED EXPENSES	
VARIABLE EXPENSES	
BALANCE	