

"It's All About the Budget" Activity

These instructions and the "What a Difference a Week Makes" handouts are to be utilized during the "It's All About the Budget" financial literacy session.

Teacher Instructions

- Please do not share the "What a Difference a Week Makes" handout with students until asked by speaker.
- As your students fill out the table in the "What a Difference a Week Makes" handout, please make sure that they keep a running track of how much money is left in their pocket. See Example Below:
- After they fill out the table, please have them answer the "It's All About the Budget" Discussion Questions on the back of the handout. If time permits, please facilitate a roundtable discussion.
- If time does not permit, please feel free to use the questions to facilitate an in-depth discussion on the importance of saving money with students at a later time.
- We would like to thank you for your cooperation in this exercise. Furthermore, we greatly appreciate you taking the time to bring your students this event.

Items or Actions	Your Answer	Items average costs	Your Answer x average costs	Amount of \$ in Pocket
-	-	Starting balance – money in your pocket	-	\$130
A.	2	\$8 per fast food meal	16	114
B.	1	\$20 per movie/ school event (includes ticket, popcorn and a drink)	20	94
C.	\$11	You have to pay our monthly streaming service bill this month	11	83
D.	1	\$20 for gas	20	63
E.	15	You buy one friend a birthday gift this week	15	48
F.	40	You have a big party to attend. You buy an outfit to make sure you look good.	40	40
-	-	Money left in your pocket at the end of the week	-	\$8

It's All About the Budget Activity

What Do Students Spend?

Answer the following questions in the space provided based on the typical habits or actions of you and your friends.

- A. _____ How often do you eat at a fast food place like McDonald's in a week?
- B. _____ How often do you go to the movies/a high school sporting event in a week?
- c. _____ How much do you pay for a monthly streaming service? (Like Spotify, Netflix, Hulu, Pandora, etc.)
- D. _____ How many times do you buy gas for yourself or someone's car in a week?
- E. _____ How much do you typically spend on a birthday gift for a friend?
- F. _____ How much do you typically spend on a new outfit?

It's All About the Budget Activity

What a Difference a Week Makes!

A few minutes ago you noted the typical spending habits of you and your friends. You are now going to take a look at what kind of impact your spending may potentially have on your future.

If you start your week with \$130 in your pocket and spend based on your answers for typical spending, how much money would you have at the end of the week?

Put your answers from the spending worksheet into the table below and complete the table to determine how much money you would have at the end of the week.

Items or Actions	Your Answer	Items average costs	Your Answer x average costs	Amount of \$ in Pocket
-	-	Starting balance – money in your pocket	-	\$130
A.		\$8 per fast food meal		
B.		\$20 per movie/school event (includes ticket, popcorn and a drink)		
C.		You have to pay your monthly streaming service bill this week		
D.		\$20 for gas		
E.		You buy one friend a birthday gift this week		
F.		You have a big party to attend. You buy an outfit to make sure you look good.		
-	-	Money left in your pocket at the end of the week	-	

It's All About the Budget Discussion Questions

Answer the following questions. Share your answers with the other people at your table:

1. Did you end up with the amount of money that you expected? Was this a surprise for you? Why or why not?

2. Based on your results, what advice would you give to teenagers about spending money?

3. If a student wants to save money for college, what actions could they take to make sure they have money left to save at the end of the week?