

LESSON PLAN

Money Responsibility

Recognize various tools and methods to keep a budget plan balanced. Think about what happens when attention to money is neglected.

Learning Objectives:

- Apply math skills to balance a spending plan.
- Recognize the importance of keeping purchase records.
- Gain an understanding of spending behavior outcomes.

Target Group:

- **Grade 3 – Grade 6**

Lesson Excerpt:

Successful money management includes keeping records of money spent. This includes having the skills to know how much money is available, how much money has been spent, and how much money must be saved for future needs.

This lesson introduces elementary-aged children to the concept of being responsible for managing money through accurate record-keeping. It provides them with activities that demonstrate the need to be accountable for how they spend and save money.

Failure to keep records and balances can lead to negative outcomes. Students need to understand the effects of their money-related behavior. Through educational experiences they can learn to be responsible for what they do with their money. This will help them become fiscally responsible adults.

Students' Activities:

1-1 Money Choices Discussion Cards

Related Worksheet: Discussion Cards

- Use pre-written examples to encourage students to think about difficult money situations.
- Discuss how to handle each situation.

1-2 Overspending

- Consider situations in which students spend more money than is available.
- Help students think about the consequences of overspending.

1-3 Keeping Records

Related Worksheet: Keeping Records

- Discuss how to organize receipts and keep expenditure pages.
- Explain the importance of other financial records and why they are needed.

1-4 Lesson Quiz

1-1 Money Choices

This activity encourages students to think about real-life money choices and their results.

- Print money-choice scenarios on 3 x 5-inch index cards.
- Use the prepared situation statements or make your own situations.
- To have more scenarios, let each student make a card about a difficult choice situation they experienced.
- Have a student draw a card from the pile of cards and read it to the class.
- Ask the student to tell what he or she would do in this situation.
- Ask the rest of the class for other comments.
- Repeat with other students and choice cards.
- Discuss how these situations are similar to selections that the students make every day.

1-2 Overspending

It is easy to overspend. This activity helps students think about the consequences of spending more money than they have available.

- Ask students if they have ever spent all of their allowance money early in the week and did not have enough left for other expenses later in the week.
- Have each student write down a situation where this happened.
- Next, ask the students to write about how they handled the situation.
- Have the students share their situations with the class.
- Discuss the impact of poor planning or not staying with a plan.
- Stress the importance of planning and following the plan.
- Explain that this can happen to adults and cause serious money problems.

1-3 Keeping Records

Students learn the importance of keeping expenditure records in writing.

- Explain that written expenditure records help us know where our money goes.
- Ask students why it is important to keep receipts from purchases they make.
- List their answers on the board. [Possible answers: Proof of purchase if they need to return an item later so they know how much they spent; Gives them a historical record of their expenditures]
- Discuss methods of keeping receipts.
- List possible places to keep them (for example, a set of envelopes, a shoe box, file folders).
- Explain that the records can help them make adjustments to their spending habits and their spending plans.

1-4 Lesson Quiz

This activity tests each child's ability to manage the use of their monies/allowances.

- Generate a simple multiple choice quiz
- Craft – make money choice scenarios on index cards and booklet with recorded spending.

LESSON MATERIALS

Multiple Choice Quiz

Circle the correct answer for each question.

1. If I overspend my allowance, I can expect my parents to give me more money.

True

False *

2. It is easier to return an item to the store if I have the sales receipt.

True *

False

3. Writing down my expenses helps me know my spending balance.

True *

False

4. It is okay to buy everything I want.

True

False *

5. I need to be sure my allowance money lasts for an entire week.

True *

False

6. Which of the following can be used to keep expense records organized:

a. Envelopes

b. File folders

c. Shoe boxes

d. All of the above *

7. I should keep sales receipts:

- a. Until I leave the store.
- b. Until I get home.
- c. Until I enter it on my expense log.
- d. As long as I need proof of purchase. *

8. Which of the following is a responsible spending practice?

- a. Spending more money than I have planned.
- b. Buying an item that looks good to me, even if I do not need it.
- c. Buying an item that is included in my spending plan. *
- d. Always shopping at the most expensive stores.

9. If you don't get a receipt, you should:

- a. wait until you get home to write the amount down.
- b. write the amount down before you leave the store. *
- c. guess what you spent at the end of the week.
- d. ignore the cost of the item.

10. Keeping records:

- a. helps me know what I spend.
- b. helps me stay within my spending plan.
- c. makes me more responsible.
- d. all of the above. *

Money Choice Scenarios

Money choices are sometimes difficult. Consider each of these situations. You may want to print these and cut them out. Then you can mix them up and have someone else pick one randomly.

Discuss the chosen card, then select another one. You will find that there will be many different opinions on some of these.

situation 1

You lend part of your allowance money to a friend. Your friend promises to pay you back tomorrow, but doesn't. It is a week later and you need the money. What should you do?

situation 2

You lend money to a friend. Your friend repays you the borrowed money. A week later, the friend repays you a second time. What would you do?

situation 3

You and your best friend go to the movies. Your friend wants to buy popcorn and doesn't have enough money. You have some extra money in your pocket. Describe what you would do and why.

situation 4

You spend all of your allowance on video games at the arcade on Tuesday afternoon. Now you don't have enough money for school lunches the rest of the week. How would you solve this problem?

situation 5

Walking home from school, you find a wallet with \$500 in it. The owner's identification is in the wallet. What would you do?

situation 6

You find a purse with \$300 in it, but there is no identification. What would you do?

situation 7

You and your friend go to the movies. The price for children 10 and under is half price. You just had your 11th birthday. The ticket seller thinks you are under 10. What would you do?

Keeping Records

Use the card template below to help you track your weekly spending. List each item you buy on the card with the correct category. At the end of the week total up your spending on each card. You may be surprised to find where the majority of your money goes.

food		
date	item	amount paid
		weekly total