

Spending on Sports

Teacher's Guide

Learner Objectives

- § Students will identify costs associated with their participation in co-curricular activities.
- § Students will identify sources of money dedicated to their co-curricular activities.
- § Students will calculate hours of personal and family work necessary to pay for activity fees.
- § Students will identify trade-offs in their personal and consumer decisions.

Materials

- § Spending on Sports: Activity Spending Tracker
- § Spending on Sports: Student Worksheet
- § Calculator
- § Paper to do calculations if no calculator is available

Activity Spending Tracker

Students should complete the Activity Spending Tracker worksheet to calculate costs of participation in a sport or other activity. You may want to explain that by taking a realistic look at what is spent on the activity, students may better understand the real costs of the activity and what their family provides for their participation.

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Spending on Sports Worksheet— Activity 1

Students may work in groups of 2 or 3 to calculate their spending on activities. You may want to introduce the materials with some of the following questions:

- § How many of you participate in a sport, club or other co-curricular activity?

§ Do you and your family have to pay a fee for your participation?

§ Often times there are other contributions that you and your family make, which may not be monetary, but help the group to raise money. Can you think of some of these examples? (You may give examples such as working at a hockey club concession stand, baking for a bake sale, etc.)

Once students have completed the calculations on the front page, discuss the number of activities that students may be involved in and the numbers of children in the family that participate in other activities. Ask students to consider the following questions:

§ Do you pay fees for more than one activity?

§ Do your brothers and sisters participate in some of the same activities?

§ Have you ever considered the cost to you and your family?



Spending on Sports Worksheet— Activity 2

Discuss the concept of trade-offs and opportunity costs. An **opportunity cost** is the next best alternative a person gives up in making a choice. They may know this as a trade-off, because you may make a “**trade-off**” in choosing one alternative over another. Ask students to again work in their small groups to discuss their trade-offs. They can record their personal trade-offs on the student worksheet and explain the factors that influenced their decision to participate in an activity. Were trade-offs involved in their decisions?

You may want to share answers in the larger group setting. You may also want to talk about the decisions we make and the level of satisfaction we experience upon making those decisions. Remind students that we need to evaluate the decisions we make to see if the decision met our needs.

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