

E. T. - A LOCAL WAY OF LEARNING

Title: HOW MUCH?

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Environmental Education Team

Grade Level: 5-8

Concepts: 11. Individual Acts
Disciplines: 1. Math
2. Social Studies

Objective:

By charting and calculating costs associated with daily living expenses, students will develop a better understanding of the cost of living and how it relates to environmental quality.

Rationale:

Many times children are not really aware of the economics of the world. This exercise is designed to allow a student insight into the cost of products that are served up to him in his daily life. Sometimes knowing what a product's dollar amount is adds impetus to a person's respecting and giving care not to abuse the item or overuse it.

Directions/Activity:

On the form that is attached, make a list of all the items you used, ate or wore for one 24-hour period.

After you have filled in the form, take it to a local store and price the food items listed. Suggestion: The Avis can aid you in pricing some of the items. Do the same with clothing and furniture. Suggestion: Using a catalog from Montgomery Ward or another store will aid you in getting accurate prices.

Ask your parents to aid you in obtaining an approximate cost of water and power bills for one month. Divide this figure by 30 to get the cost for one day, then divide the figure by the number of people in your family to find out the cost of the items you use.

Total all columns after they are completed. Take all columns and add them together for a grand total.

Suggestions:

1. Explore what you might do to lower costs in each of the columns.
2. Compare your costs with other students and exchange ideas for conserving.

E.T.

WORKSHEET

Name _____

Fill in the amounts you used for one day's time and use fractions of amounts when appropriate. (Try to be as accurate as you can when approximating your cost.)

FOOD		CLOTHING		FURNITURE		RENT		UTILITIES (WATER, ELECTRIC)	
1.	_____ Cost	_____ Time used for _____							
2.	_____ Cost	_____ Time used for _____							
3.	_____ Cost	_____ Time used for _____							
4.	_____ Cost	_____ Time used for _____							
5.	_____ Cost	_____ Time used for _____							
6.	_____ Cost	_____ Time used for _____							
7.	_____ Cost	_____ Time used for _____							
8.	_____ Cost	_____ Time used for _____							
9.	_____ Cost	_____ Time used for _____							
10.	_____ Cost	_____ Time used for _____							
	_____ TOTAL								
GRAND TOTAL _____									

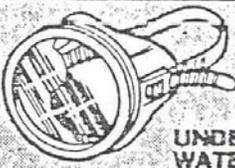
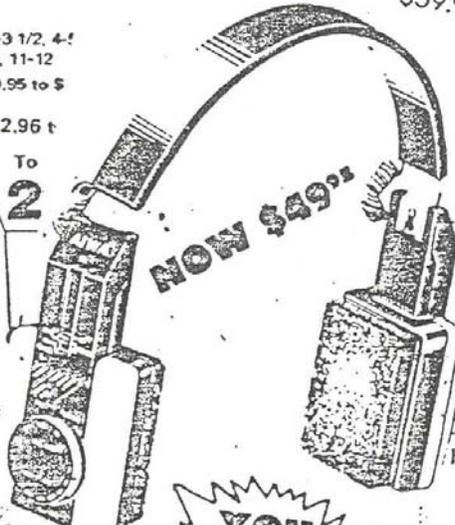
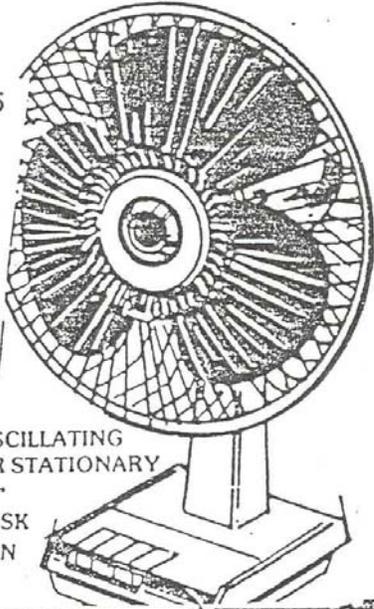
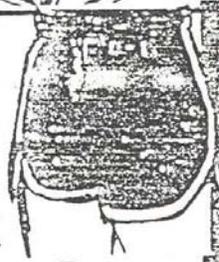
EXAMPLE: FOOD

1. One egg - Cost: current price for a dozen divided by 12
2. Clothing- current prices in catalog/store, one year's use, pro-rated
3. Furniture - use new prices, 10 year's use, pro-rated
4. Rent - rent or mortgage payment, monthly, pro-rated
5. Use monthly bills and figure your individual cost. . . per day

E.T.

HOW MUCH?

3. Discuss what resources were provided to you by a service agency.
4. Mathematically explore percentages such as: Your cost over a day, month, year and/or other similar percentages.
5. Discuss the multiplier effect if costs were multiplied times the number in a family, town, island, nation.
6. Compare your situation with a student in another country.

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