This lesson will help students improve their financial literacy by helping them gain the knowledge and skills required to make informed financial decisions. Students will begin with a discussion of financial literacy and budgets, create a budget for a dream party, and then create a post-secondary budget using myBlueprint.

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| **Teacher Led** |  | **Requires Computer** | **X** | **Requires myBlueprint.ca** | **X** |

**LEARNING GOALS:**

1. Students will prepare and use a personal budget
2. Students will identify strategies for making the most of an income—understanding spending, reducing spending, meeting financial commitments and obligations, and saving.

**MATERIALS:**

* Computer, tablet or mobile device
* Handout [A]- KWL Charts and Discussion
* Handout [B]- Dream Party
* Handout [C]-myBlueprint Designing my Post-Secondary Budget

**GETTING STARTED:**

1. Have students visit [www.myBlueprint.ca](http://www.myblueprint.ca), and enter their email and password to log in.
2. **Forgotten password?** Students can reset their passwords by clicking on the ‘Forgot your password?’ link in the green Existing User box.
3. **Forgotten email?** As a teacher/counsellor, you can reset your students’ emails and passwords in your Student Manager or My Classes.

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

*Before the lesson*

1. Small group discussion: Divide students into small groups and give them **Handout [A]**. Have students fill in the **KWL charts** for each topic. They will return to this later to fill in the last column. Ask students to share their KWL charts with the class or other groups.
2. Make a chart on the board and pose the question: What is the difference between needs and wants? Have Students list definitions and examples of needs in one column and wants in the other.
3. Have Students complete the rest of **Handout [A]** in groups for the needs/wants chart, then independently for the questions

*During the lesson*

1. Give students **Handout [B]-** **Dream Party worksheet**.Have students create a budget for their dream party. Emphasize the use of real numbers. Students can either share in partners or as a whole class.
2. Give students **Handout [C]-myBlueprint Post-Secondary budget**.
3. Have students carefully read over the instructions and complete the worksheet using the **myBlueprint Budgets** tool found by clicking **Money** on the left hand side navigation menu.

*After the lesson*

1. Ask students to hand in **Handout [C]** once they have completed all tasks and filled in the last column of the KWL chart in **Handout [A]**.

**HANDOUT [A]: KWL CHART AND DISCUSSION**

A KWL chart describes what you want to know (K), would like to know (W), and have learned (L) about a topic. In small groups, fill in the following KWL charts for each topic. You will fill out the LEARNED column at the end of the lesson.

**Topic 1: Financial Literacy**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **KNOW** | **WOULD LIKE TO KNOW** | **LEARNED** |
|  |  |  |

**Topic 2: Budgeting**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **KNOW** | **WOULD LIKE TO KNOW** | **LEARNED** |
|  |  |  |

Make a list of your own personal needs and wants:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Needs** | **Wants** |
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**Answer the questions below:**

1. When building a personal budget, what can you do without? Why?

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1. Is there a want you cannot not imagine living without? How can you accommodate this?

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**HANDOUT [B]: DREAM PARTY WORKSHEET**

You are throwing a party with a budget of $5000! You need to budget accordingly so that your guests are well taken care of, and so you don’t go over budget. Do some research online to complete the fields and chart below.

**Theme of Party: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Number of Guests: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Time of Party: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Item** | **Details** | **Cost** |
| **Food**  Ex. 20 Large Pizzas |  |  |
| **Drinks**  Ex. 20 L of Water |  |  |
| **Decorations and Venue**  Ex. Balloons, Hall Rental |  |  |
| **Entertainment**  Ex. Clown, Band |  |  |
| **Other:**  Ex. Games, Prizes |  |  |

**HANDOUT [C]: DESIGNING MY POST-SECONDARY BUDGET**

In this activity you will create a Post-Secondary budget. First you will determine the pathway you are most interested in pursuing. Second, you will use the myBlueprint **Budgets** tool to start your very own budget. **Budgets** can be found by clicking on **Money** in the left hand navigation menu**.** Click the grey **+ Add New** button at the top right corner of yourscreento begin your Post-Secondary budget. Name your budget and choose a start date.

**A) Post-Secondary Planner**

1. Click **Post-Secondary** in the left hand navigation menu.
2. Select one of the four Post-Secondary Pathways (Apprenticeship, College & University or Workplace).
3. Click the blue **Search** button after filling out the keyword field and/or selecting smart filter options to explore post-secondary programs.
4. Favourite at least 1 post-secondary opportunity
   1. To favourite, click on the heart icon located next to the name of the opportunity

*Which post-secondary pathway are you most interested in?* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Which program did you favourite?* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**B) Budgets**

1. Click on **Money** on the land hand side navigation menu to go to **Budgets.**
2. Click **+ Add New** on the right side of your screen,and enter a budget name and start date.

Note: you can relate a budget to a favourite post-secondary opportunity by choosing the ‘***Budget for post-secondary***’ option at the bottom of your screen– this will help you plan your expenses based on tuition and other fees of a program you favourited.

1. **Add income and expenses** to your budget (5 minimum in total) by clicking **+ Add Income/Expense.**

**REFLECTION QUESTIONS:**

1. What new financial terminology have you learned?

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1. What strategies did you use to create a budget?

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1. Do you feel you are good with money? Why or why not?

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1. What surprised you most about your budget?

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1. Do you feel that having a budget will help you in the future? Why or Why not?

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1. What steps might you need to take in order to create a more balanced budget?

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1. Did you notice any feelings that came up during or after you finished your budget? Where do these come from? How will you overcome them?

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