

 **BUILDING BLOCKS STUDENT WORKSHEET**

Teaming up to build a budget

Keeping to a budget and comparing costs can help you save money. When making a budget with other people, it's important to compromise so that everyone gets something they want.

Instructions

- 1 Work with your group to plan a fun middle school event, using the steps below.
- 2 Answer the reflection questions.

Planning a school event

Step 1. Choose an event

Imagine that your school has put your group in charge of planning an event for 80 students. Your budget for the event is \$500. Choose what type of event you'd like to plan. Examples include a dance, a talent show, a party, etc.

What event are you planning?

Step 2. Brainstorm event costs

Brainstorm the things you want for this event and list them below. Examples may include food, drinks, cups, paper plates, table decorations, balloons, music, etc.

Then, use the Internet to research prices. Write the prices next to the items. Be sure to comparison shop to get the best deals.



| Item | Price | Quantity | Total cost |
|------|-------|----------|------------|
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Total cost of items from brainstorm: _____

Step 3. Create your event budget

To stay within budget, you probably won't be able to get everything you want. Work with your group to figure out what items you'll buy to make the event a success while keeping within your \$500 budget. Explain your choices.

| Item | Total cost | Why did you choose to keep this item? |
|------|------------|---------------------------------------|
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| Item | Total cost | Why did you choose to keep this item? |
|------|------------|---------------------------------------|
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| | | |

Event's total cost: _____

Reflection questions

1. Working as a group to make decisions about how to stick to a budget often requires compromise. What compromises did your group make?

2. Did you need to take out any items you wanted so that other people could have what they wanted? Explain.

3. How would your group's budget be different if you were the only one making decisions?