

## Everyday Expenses

**Lesson time** 30 mins

This is a quick activity that can be used to encourage children to think about the cost of everyday expenses.

As a class, make a list of everyday expenses that their families may incur. Discuss the concept of needs versus wants. I.e. A need is generally seen as a requirement for survival, e.g. food, clothing and shelter. A want is a desire. It may be the desire for a need (e.g. a homeless person wanting something to eat) or for something not needed for survival, such as chocolate or a new car. Make reference to some of the items on the list you have created by way of example.

### Activity

1. Separate the class into small groups and have them cut up the attached cards
2. In their groups, have students arrange the cards in order of what they think costs the least, to what costs the most
3. Have students fill out the approximate cost of each of these cards (based on their prior knowledge)
4. Once students have had a chance to attempt the above activities, come back together as a class and discuss their results. What item do they think costs the most, and which item costs the least? Which of the items is most essential (the biggest need) and which is the least essential (the biggest want)?
5. Provide students with answers and discuss how these compare to their thoughts on cost

Item	Cost		
		Big Mac	\$6.00
Moro	\$1.60	Movie ticket - Child	\$13.00
Bread - white sliced loaf (600g)	\$1.55	Movie ticket - Adult	\$18.00
Toilet Paper (4 pack)	\$2.00	Doctors visit	\$37.00
Apples (per kg)	\$2.52	Internet (per month)	\$70.00
Bus ticket	\$3.00	Pair of jeans	\$80.00
Milk - standard (2 litres)	\$3.60	Tank of petrol (50 litres)	\$105.50
Cup of Coffee	\$5.00	Power (average household/month)	\$165.00

Note: answers are approximations only, and actual costs may vary

### Extension

1. Discuss ways people can save money when buying items such as the above (i.e. using discount vouchers, buying in bulk, and shopping around)
2. Discuss the concept of getting value of money when spending. You may be able to buy cheaper goods, but is it worth the potential reduction in quality (i.e. Cadbury's vs. Pams' hot chocolate)



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<p><b>Bread</b></p> <p>Cost: _____</p> <p>Need/Want</p>	<p><b>Electricity (per month)</b></p> <p>Cost: _____</p> <p>Need/Want</p>	<p><b>Milk (2 litres)</b></p> <p>Cost: _____</p> <p>Need/Want</p>
<p><b>Movie ticket - Adult</b></p> <p>Cost: _____</p> <p>Need/Want</p>	<p><b>Bus ticket</b></p> <p>Cost: _____</p> <p>Need/Want</p>	<p><b>Internet (per month)</b></p> <p>Cost: _____</p> <p>Need/Want</p>
<p><b>Apples (per kg)</b></p> <p>Cost: _____</p> <p>Need/Want</p>	<p><b>Doctors visit</b></p> <p>Cost: _____</p> <p>Need/Want</p>	<p><b>Toilet Paper (4 pack)</b></p> <p>Cost: _____</p> <p>Need/Want</p>
<p><b>Tank of petrol</b></p> <p>Cost: _____</p> <p>Need/Want</p>	<p><b>Movie ticket - Child</b></p> <p>Cost: _____</p> <p>Need/Want</p>	<p><b>Cup of Coffee</b></p> <p>Cost: _____</p> <p>Need/Want</p>
<p><b>Big Mac</b></p> <p>Cost: _____</p> <p>Need/Want</p>	<p><b>Moro</b></p> <p>Cost: _____</p> <p>Need/Want</p>	<p><b>Pair of jeans</b></p> <p>Cost: _____</p> <p>Need/Want</p>