



Activity Tips

GRADES 3 - 5

ACTIVITY *Where does my money go?*

OVERVIEW This activity allows participants to work with the never-ending question of “Where does my money go?” Having participants become sensitive to the question will allow them to become better managers of their money.

OBJECTIVES Participants in this activity will:

- Learn how to better manage money.
- Receive tips for keeping track of how money is spent.
- Experience decision making opportunities to save money from typical daily expenditures and the impact of accomplishing such.

**BEFORE
THE ACTIVITY** A few days before the activity, have the participants conduct a survey of five adults (could be family or neighbors) to find out if people keep up with how they spend their money and if so, how do they keep track of such expenses. To provide consistency with the process, consider providing the participants with strips of paper with the following content.

<p>I am studying how to manage my money better. Will you answer the following questions?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Do you keep track of how you spend your money? YES NO2. If so, how do you keep track? <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Thank you for helping me with my project.</p>

Collect and summarize the results of the survey and incorporate the results when using the activity.

**DURING
THE ACTIVITY**

- Have the participants tally the results of their surveys and incorporate the information in to the activity where appropriate.
- Encourage the participants to take seriously the task of tracking their expense from the previous three days. As always, if discussing this topic in a public environment, be sensitive to the fact that participants may be working with varying amounts of money.
- Once the participants help Bob identify ways to save money, challenge them to review their own expense record to determine how they might save money.

**AFTER
THE ACTIVITY** Provide for an extended learning experience by encouraging the participants to share the results of the activity with those that answered their survey.

**TIPS FOR
SUCCESS** Whenever discussing money, be sensitive to the fact that participants come from a variety of economic backgrounds and no participant should be placed in a personally embarrassing situation.