

Unit Rates: Comparison Shopping

Name: _____ Date: _____

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

Student will be able to calculate unit rates to determine which of two products is the better deal.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- 3-4 grocery store flyers, product labels, or online price screenshots printed out
- paper
- pencil
- calculator

HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

1. Gather price and quantity information for 3 pairs of similar products (e.g., two brands of cereal, two sizes of the same juice).
2. For each pair, write the price and the quantity (weight, volume, or count) clearly on paper.
3. Calculate the unit rate (price per single unit, like price per ounce) for each product by dividing price by quantity.
4. Circle the better deal in each pair based on the lower unit rate.
5. Create a simple table summarizing all 3 comparisons with columns: Product, Price, Quantity, Unit Rate, Better Deal.

QUESTIONS

1. **For your first pair of products, what were the two unit rates and which was the better deal?**

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2. **Was the product with the higher total price always the worse deal? Explain using one of your examples.**

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3. **Why is unit rate a more useful comparison tool than total price alone?**
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4. If a 3rd brand costs \$0.25 per ounce, would it beat both of your examples? How do you know?
