

Financial Literacy for Community Projects

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

The student will create and manage a simple budget for a hypothetical or real community service project.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- paper
- pencil
- calculator
- play money or coins (optional)

HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

1. Choose a small community project idea (a bake sale fundraiser, a supply donation drive, a neighborhood cleanup with supplies) that requires a budget.
2. List all estimated expenses for your project (supplies, printing flyers, snacks, etc.) with realistic estimated costs for each.
3. Add up your total expenses, then estimate potential income if applicable (donations, bake sale prices x expected items sold).
4. Create a simple income-and-expense table showing whether your project would break even, make a profit, or need additional fundraising.
5. If your project runs a shortfall, brainstorm 2 realistic ways to close the gap (donations, reducing costs, a matching contribution).

QUESTIONS

1. **What community project did you budget for, and what were your top 3 expenses?**
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2. **What is your total estimated expense, and total estimated income (if applicable)? Show your math.**
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3. **Does your project break even, profit, or run a shortfall? By how much?**
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4. If your project has a shortfall, what are 2 realistic ways to close the gap?
