

LESSON
1

Learning to Be a Smart Shopper

Help students add up what things really cost and plan to make good buys.

OBJECTIVE

Students will:

- compare numbers
- use informed decision making and planning skills
- compare the costs and benefits of spending alternatives
- represent and solve problems involving addition

TIME

40 minutes

MATERIALS

- Pencils and paper
- What's the Best Buy? activity sheet
- Plan a Family Fun Event family activity sheet

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Lesson 2 and Family Activity, [Meet the Coins Poster/Teaching Guide](#)

STANDARDS

- Common Core State Standards, Math Content 1.OA.A.1 and 2.OA.A.1
- Jump\$tart Financial Literacy Standards: Spending and Saving 1a, 4a, b, and c

DIRECTIONS

1. Ask your class: Who here has gone shopping with a family member? Ask students what items they bought and write responses on the board.
2. Explain that when we shop, we sometimes buy things that are **needs** (items that are required, like food and medicine) and other times we buy **wants** (items that are not necessary but we would like to have, like expensive shoes or video games). Ask your class which items on the board are wants and which are needs.
3. Further explain that to buy more of the things we need and maybe some of the things we want, we should use our money wisely. One way to do that: Be smart shoppers! Provide examples of smart shopping in the following steps:
 - **Look carefully at prices.** Give the example of a family that drinks a lot of milk. If a gallon of milk costs \$5 and a half-gallon costs \$3, should the family buy the gallon container or two of the half-gallon containers? Show how the two half-gallon containers cost \$6 while the gallon only costs \$5. Over time, this difference adds up.
 - **Compare prices at different stores.** Sometimes prices are lower at one store than another. Ask: If the same gallon of milk costs \$3 at one store and \$3.75 at another, which would be the better buy? (\$3.) Discuss.
 - **Consider buying things used instead of new.** Give the following example: A new bike might cost \$100, but a used bike bought from a family whose child outgrew it might cost \$30. Discuss why a used bike might be a better deal. Ask: In this scenario, how much money would you save by buying used?
 - **Ask, "Do you want it above anything else?"** Discuss the newest popular toy: You might want it badly, but ask, Do you have to have it? Discuss how instead of spending the money, you could save the money for something even better in the future. Ask: What are some things you could save for?
4. Hand out the What's the Best Buy? activity sheet and ask students to complete it individually or in pairs (or for Grade 1, as a class, and/or with manipulatives if possible). Review answers as a class.
5. Hand out the Plan a Family Fun Event family activity sheet. Instruct students to take it home and complete it with their parents.



ANSWER KEY FOR STUDENT ACTIVITY SHEET

For all purchases, a student may decide not to buy the item, in which case the cost is \$0. However, if they do decide to buy, the best buy is B for carrots, A for cheese, A for the calculator, A for the sparkly glow sticks, and B for the cookies.

(Lesson continued on next page.)



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Learning to Be a Smart Shopper

EXTENSION

Have students give one another a quiz that they'll write themselves called "What's the Better Buy?" Have students take a landscape piece of 8½ x 11 paper and draw a line down the middle. Instruct them to create and illustrate a shopping scenario on each side of the line. For example, on one side, apples could be 3 for \$1 and on the other 2 for \$1. Use examples with a level of difficulty that is appropriate for your class. Students then swap papers and solve.

ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS

Ask your students to answer the following questions on a separate piece of paper. Your class may be at a point in their development where they can answer the questions in a couple of sentences, or the questions might be best answered by drawing a picture with a caption. Listening in on discussions in small groups would also work.

1. Why is it a good idea to "get the better buy"?

Key point: We will have more money available to save or spend if we shop carefully.

2. What are two ways to be a smart shopper?

Key points: We can think through whether we need to buy something. If we decide we need it, we can check prices in different stores, look at the prices of different sizes of the same item, or try to buy the item used.

NAME _____

What's the Best Buy?

Imagine you're going shopping for some things you need or want. Study the list below and circle the choice that is the best buy for each item.

ITEM	STORE A	STORE B
Carrots 	1 pound for \$1	2 pounds for \$1.25
Cheddar cheese 	1 pound for \$3.99	1 pound for \$4.59
Calculator for school 	\$8	\$9
Sparkly glow sticks 	\$12	\$14
Cookies 	1-pound bag for \$3	2-pound bag for \$3

Plan a Family Fun Event

Dear Parents,

In school, your child has been learning about how to make smart choices when spending money. Keep the learning going with this fun home activity. Plan an event with snacks, games, or movies using the information below, and get kids' help in learning how to make the best buys. You don't have to pick everything, just the things you like! Circle the items you want, and which of the buying options for each is the smartest.

FUN ITEM	STORE A	STORE B
Pizza bites	\$4 for 20	\$1.50 for 10
Frozen yogurt	\$2 for ½ gallon	\$6 for one gallon
Carrots	\$1 for 1 pound	\$2 for 3 pounds
Flavored water	\$1.29 for 1 liter	\$0.99 for 1 liter
Family board game	\$12.99	\$8.99
Book from library for read-aloud (free)	Free	Free
DVD from library (free)	Free	Free

NAME OF FUN ITEM	WHICH STORE WILL YOU GET IT FROM?	WHAT QUANTITY WILL YOU BUY?	AMOUNT PAID FOR THE ITEM
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$

Total Amount You Will Pay: \$ _____

Planifique un evento familiar divertido

Estimados padres:

En la escuela, su hijo(a) ha estado aprendiendo acerca de cómo tomar decisiones inteligentes al momento de gastar su dinero. Permítale seguir aprendiendo con esta divertida actividad para el hogar. Planifique un evento con bocadillos, juegos o películas, use la información que aparece a continuación y haga que los niños colaboren mientras les enseña a realizar las mejores compras. No es necesario que elijan todo, solo las cosas que les gusten. Encierren con un círculo los artículos que desean y cuál de las opciones de compra es la más inteligente para cada rubro.

ARTÍCULO DIVERTIDO	TIENDA A	TIENDA B
Bocadillos de pizza	\$4 por 20	\$1.50 por 10
Yogur helado	\$2 por ½ galón	\$6 por 1 galón
Zanahorias	\$1 por 1 libra	\$2 por 3 libras
Agua saborizada	\$1.29 por 1 litro	\$0.99 por 1 litro
Juego de mesa familiar	\$12.99	\$8.99
Libro de la biblioteca para leer en voz alta (gratis)	Gratis	Gratis
DVD de la biblioteca (gratis)	Gratis	Gratis

NOMBRE DEL ARTÍCULO DIVERTIDO	¿EN QUÉ TIENDA LO COMPRARÁN?	¿QUÉ CANTIDAD COMPRARÁN?	MONTO PAGADO POR EL ARTÍCULO
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$

Monto total que pagarán: \$ _____