



EduTrend Contents

W4C · ECONOMICS & BUSINESS STUDIES · PRIMARY

Class Shop

Make choices with limited money

Ages 7–10

Level: Foundation

60 minutes

Groups of 4 · up to 30

Activity 01

Inside: activity at a glance · step-by-step session plan · facilitator notes · 3 pupil worksheets · assessment checklist

ACTIVITY 01 · AT A GLANCE

Class Shop

The classroom becomes a shop with priced items. Each pupil has a small budget in play coins and a shopping list of needs and wants. Pupils take turns as shoppers and shopkeepers, calculate totals and change, and talk about the choices they had to make.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the session pupils can:

- explain the difference between needs and wants;
- add prices and calculate change within a budget;
- explain that choosing one thing means giving up another;
- describe the roles of buyers and sellers.

KEY WORDS

money · price · budget · change · need · want · choice · buyer · seller · opportunity cost

CURRICULUM LINKS

Maths: money, addition and subtraction. PSHE: financial education. Voluntary National Content Standards in Economics, standard 1: scarcity.

1

NEED

What do people want?

2

CHOOSE

Scarcity and choice

3

PLAN

Costs and prices

4

TRADE

Buy and sell

5

MEASURE

Count the results

6

REVIEW

What would we change?

Materials (per group)

- Play coins and notes
- Empty food packets and small items with price labels
- Shopping list cards (mix of needs and wants)
- Purse or envelope per pupil
- Receipt pads
- Worksheets 1, 2 and 3

Before the session

- Set up a shop table with 12–15 priced items, using whole-number prices suited to your class.
- Give each pupil an envelope with the same budget.
- Write shopping list cards with needs and wants.
- Decide the currency: your local currency or a class currency.

SAFETY

Use empty packets or pictures; no food is eaten. Play money only.

ACTIVITY 01 · SESSION PLAN

Step by step

The key idea is the choice: pupils cannot buy everything, so what did they give up?

Time	What happens	Say or ask
0–10 min Hook	Show two items and a small budget. Which would you choose?	<i>“Why can’t we have both?”</i>
10–20 min Sort	Groups sort shopping list items into needs and wants.	<i>“Could you live without this?”</i>
20–40 min Shop	Pupils shop in turns; shopkeepers total prices and give change.	<i>“How much change should you get?”</i>
40–50 min Reflect	Pupils record what they bought and what they gave up.	<i>“What did you have to leave behind?”</i>
50–60 min Share	Compare choices across the class.	<i>“Did everyone make the same choices? Why not?”</i>

CHALLENGE CARD (print or copy onto the board)

Buy everything you need for a picnic with a fixed budget, calculate your change and explain one thing you gave up.

ACTIVITY 01 · FACILITATOR NOTES

The economics in brief

Money lets people swap what they have for what they need. Because money is limited, people must choose. Economists call this scarcity. The next best thing you give up when you choose is called the opportunity cost.

Buyers and sellers both benefit when they trade: the buyer gets something they value more than the money, and the seller gets money they value more than the item. Checking change carefully is an everyday maths skill.

Common ideas to listen for

- “If I have money I can buy everything.” Money is limited, so we choose.
- “Wants are bad.” Wants are fine; we just decide which matter most.
- “The shop makes money from nothing.” Shops pay for the goods they sell.

Adapting the activity

Support

Use prices under 10 and coins of one or two values.

Stretch

Add a special offer, such as two for the price of one, and decide if it is good value.

WORKSHEET 1

Needs or wants?

Name: _____

Class: _____ Date: _____

Sort your shopping list.

My list

Item	Need or want?	Why?

WORKSHEET 2

My receipt

Record your shopping.

Receipt

Item	Price
Total	
Money given	
Change	

WORKSHEET 3

Choices

Think about what you chose.

Something I wanted but did not buy

Why I chose what I bought

FOR THE TEACHER

Assessment checklist

Use during the session. One sheet covers up to eight pupils; copy as needed.

Pupil	Distinguishes needs and wants	Calculates totals and change	Explains a choice and what was given up

Suggested codes: W = working towards · E = expected · G = greater depth

ABOUT THIS ACTIVITY

Class Shop is a sample activity from the EduTrend Contents W4C Economics & Business Studies programme (primary, level: foundation). Every activity in the programme follows the same format: a practical challenge, a clear session plan, facilitator notes and ready-to-print worksheets, so that teachers, club leaders and parents can run it without extra preparation.

Full 15-, 20- and 32-week programmes are available from EduStore at edutrend.org.

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