

Basics: Enough money to live

Approximate time: 20 minute tutor time session

Materials: Internet access to research costs/pen paper

Aim/outcome: To encourage students to understand that for most people the amount of money available is limited.

Explanation:

- Divide students into groups of four
- Tell students that they each have £100 and with that £100 they will need to feed their family for a week, buy their best friend a birthday present, get the bus to school every day and buy a pair of school shoes.
- Ask students to write a budget that explains how they have used their money.
 - Then discuss: Did they find this task easy or difficult?
 - Was it hard to complete the task and keep to the budget?
 - Could students buy everything in the budget?
- Ask students if this exercise has helped them learn about money.

Expansion activity:

Invite a speaker to come into the tutor group and talk about the charity work they have done abroad, or ask someone who has worked with a charity helping young people in poverty or homelessness. You could have a discussion around loans with very high interest and how parents can struggle at Christmas or other seasonal events to find enough money to pay for presents.

One-to-one :

With the student carry out the task and get them to answer the questions above.

Students say: Some students may come from households where they worry about money or from poorer backgrounds. Do not make students discuss any issues about their experience of poverty and do not make them stand out to the rest of the class. Encourage students to feel supported and be sensitive to their needs.