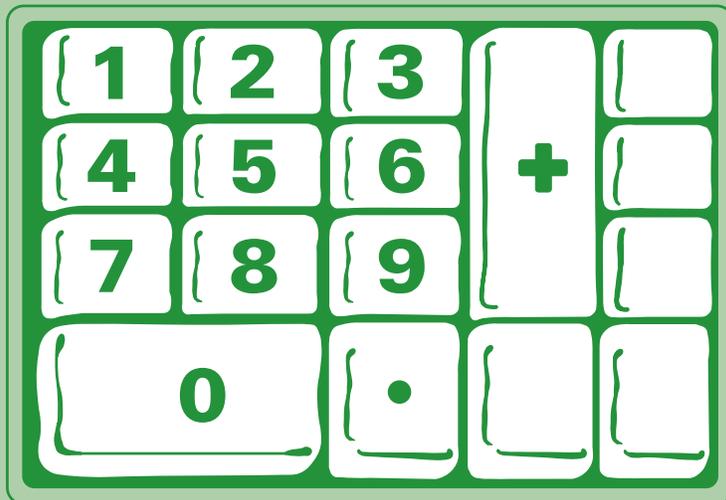


THE Spending Game

29.99



IOWA STATE
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Directions

Purpose

Managing money means making choices. There is never enough money for all the things we'd like. This game will help you decide what is most important to you.

How to Play

Round #1:

Today, each of you has a "20 bean" income. Go through all categories in "The Spending Game." Make one selection in each category and fill in the accompanying box(es) with bean(s). Instead of beans, you can use your pencil to mark up to 20 boxes as follows: ☒

Example

You choose to rent a place of your own. This housing category requires three beans or three marks.

Housing

- a. live with parents
- b. share apartment with friends
- c. rent place of your own

Discussion Questions

Compare your spending choices to those of other players. What did you spend your money on? How do your values, goals, and past experiences affect spending choices? What did you learn about yourself from this activity?

Round #2:

Your income has been cut to 13 beans. Decide what you must give up. Where will you cut the seven beans? If you are not using beans, complete 13 boxes with X marks as follows: ✕

Discussion Questions

What was the first item you gave up? Why? What was the last item you gave up? Why?

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Housing



- a. live with parents
- b. share apartment with friends
- c. rent place of your own

Utilities



Heat and lights

- a. included in rent
- b. cost split among roommates
- c. you pay the bills

Phone

- a. no phone
- b. phone; few long distance calls
- c. phone; lots of long distance calls
- d. cell phone

Furnishings



- a. borrow from parents
- b. buy used
- c. buy new

Insurance



Health and disability

- a. no coverage
- b. basic health coverage
- c. health and disability coverage

Auto

- a. liability coverage only
- b. complete coverage
- c. high risk coverage

Renter's

- a. no coverage
- b. property and liability coverage

Savings



- a. change in piggy bank
- b. \$25 a month
- c. \$50 a month

Food



- a. eat with parents or carry brown bag lunch
- b. snacks from vending machines or convenience stores
- c. cook for yourself; eat out once a week
- d. frequent fast-food lunches; eat out for dinner once a week

Transportation



- a. walk or bike
- b. buy fuel for family car
- c. buy used car; pay for maintenance

Recreation



- a. television, picnics, visits with friends
- b. cable television; occasional movies
- c. concerts, health club membership, and a vacation

Clothing



Clothes

- a. wear high school wardrobe
- b. buy at discount store
- c. buy name brand clothes

Care

- a. use parents' washer and dryer
- b. go to laundromat; some dry cleaning
- c. buy washer and dryer

Personal Grooming



- a. generic brands
- b. basic hair cut; discount specials
- c. hair styled and permed; name brand products

Gifts



- a. make your own
- b. cards and small gifts on special occasions
- c. expensive gifts for everybody

More Choices



(you may select more than one)

- a. CDs or videos
- b. \$10,000 life insurance policy
- c. weekly giving to charity or religious group
- d. newspaper and magazine subscriptions
- e. Internet service
- f. favorite hobby (photography, sports, computer games)
- g. color television, VCR, or CD player
- h. expensive dates
- i. business suits and jackets
- j. personal computer
- k. new car or pickup

(Discussion Questions continued)

What was easy about choosing between options?

What was difficult about choosing between options?

How much do you plan to save? Why?

How much money is “enough” to have in an emergency fund?

What kinds of unexpected expenses could be paid out of an emergency fund?

Why is saving and having an emergency fund important?

Final Thoughts

What did you learn about yourself from this activity?

What did you learn about making decisions?

How will you use what you have learned to make money management decisions?

File: Economics 3

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