

Owning a Car

Overview

In this lesson students will be learning about the different costs that come with buying and owning a car. This lesson is important because there are many costs that students do not think come with owning a car and it is important to take them all into consideration before owning a car.

Objectives

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to :

- Define and acknowledge cost that come with owning a car
- Define different types of insurance
- Calculate the cost of a car loan
- Find the costs that come with specific cars

Standards

Spending and Saving

Standard 3. **Describe how to use different payment methods.**

Standard 4. **Apply consumer skills to spending and saving decisions.**

Financial Decision Making

Standard 1: **Recognize the responsibilities associated with personal financial decisions.**












Standard 2: **Use reliable resources when making financial decisions.**

This listing is based on the JumpStart National Standards for Personal Finance. To see how this lesson aligns with other standards (including for your state), visit content.PersonalFinanceLab.com/Standards




























Vocabulary

- **Insurance** - a practice or arrangement by which a company or government agency provides a guarantee of compensation for specified loss, damage, illness, or death in return for payment of a premium.
- **Insurance deductible** - the amount you need to pay out of pocket before your insurance kicks in
- **Insurance Premium** - how much you pay each month for coverage
- **Down Payment** - an initial payment made when something is bought on credit.
- **Interest Rate** - the proportion of a loan that is charged as interest to the borrower, typically expressed as an annual percentage of the loan outstanding.
- **Maintenance Cost** - are the costs incurred to keep an item in good condition or good working order.

Lesson Plan Includes

- | | |
|---|---|
|  Direct Instruction |  Technology-Based Activities |
|  Accompanying |  Worksheets |
|  Class Discussion |  Assessments |
|  Full Class |  External Resources |
|  Small Group Activities |  Homework Optimized |
|  Individual | |

Activity Summary

- Introduction  
Time: 5 Minutes
- PFL Buying a Car Lesson     
Time: 15 Minutes
Requires: PFinLab Curriculum Site License, Computer Access
- PFL Car Insurance Lesson     
Time: 15 Minutes
Requires: PFinLab Curriculum Site License, Computer Access
- PFL Budgeting Game     
Time: 20 Minutes
Requires: PFinLab Budgeting Site License, Computer Access
- PFL Car Loan Calc Lesson     
Time: 15 Minutes
Requires: PFinLab Curriculum Site License, Computer Access
- Car Cost Discussion  
Time: 5 Minutes
- Car Purchase Research   
Time: 20 Minutes
Requires: Computer Access

Instructor's Guide

Introduction

Explain to students that there are a lot of different costs that come with owning a car.

- Introduce but do not define the terms:
 - Insurance
 - Down Payment
 - Interest Rate
 - Maintenance Cost
- Explain to students that today they will be learning about these terms and more. By the end of the lesson students should have a road map to purchasing and owning a car.

Time:

5 Minutes

Type:



Required Resources:

Independent Activities

Activities designed for students to learn independently—either in class or as homework. Some activities include presentations if you prefer to use them for direct instruction instead of independent study.

PFinLab Buying a Car Lesson

Assign your students the “Buying a Car” lesson on PersonalFinanceLab.com. This lesson breaks the process of buying a car into different steps and will help guide students through the thought process of purchasing a car.

They will be required to complete the quiz at the end as an assessment. If used as homework, follow up with discussion questions the next day

Discussion Questions:

- What are some costs that come with buying a car?
- What is a pro/con of buying a new/old car?
- What would be the first step if you were thinking about buying a car?

Resource Links:

Lesson Content (Included in the Assignment on PersonalFinanceLab.com)

<https://content.personalfinancelab.com/finance-knowledge/personal-finance/buying-a-car/>

Accompanying Presentation:

<https://content.personalfinancelab.com/presentations/buying-a-car-presentation/>

Time:

15 Minutes

Type:



Required Resources:

- PFinLab Curriculum
- Computer Access

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PFinLab Car Insurance Lesson

Assign your students the "Car Insurance" lesson on PersonalFinanceLab.com. This lesson goes over the different types of car insurance and then describes the different factors that might lower or increase your insurance rates.

They will be required to complete the quiz at the end as an assessment. If used as homework, follow up with discussion questions the next day

Discussion Questions:

- What type of car insurance is required in most states?
- Give an example of something that will lower/ raise your rates?
- What type of insurance would you get and why?

Resource Links:

Lesson Content (Included in the Assignment on PersonalFinanceLab.com)

<https://content.personalfinancelab.com/finance-knowledge/personal-finance/car-insurance/>

Accompanying Presentation:

<https://content.personalfinancelab.com/presentations/car-insurance-presentation/>

Time:

15 Minutes

Type:



Required Resources:

- PFinLab Curriculum
- Computer Access

PFinLab Budgeting Game

Have students complete 1 simulated month of the PersonalFinanceLab.com budgeting game. Have them record their gas and car insurance prices.

Then discuss the prices with an adult at home to see if the prices match up. Have them record the amounts and collect it as an assessment.

Time:

20 Minutes

Type:



Required Resources:

- PFinLab Budget Game
- Computer Access

PFinLab Car Loan Calculator Lesson

Assign your students the "Car Loan Calculator" lesson on PersonalFinanceLab.com. This lesson has a customizable calculator that helps students figure out the monthly payments of a car loan while helping them learn different terms.

They will be required to complete the quiz at the end as an assessment.

Resource Links:

Lesson Content (Included in the Assignment on PersonalFinanceLab.com)

<https://content.personalfinancelab.com/finance-knowledge/personal-finance/personal-finance-calculators/car-loan-calculator/>

Time:

15 Minutes

Type:



Required Resources:

- PFinLab Curriculum
- Computer Access

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Full Class Activities

Activities designed for whole-class participation. These are best used along with the direct instruction portion of the lesson.

Car Cost Discussion

This will be a teacher led discussion about the different costs that come with owning a car.

- Give students 2 minutes to write down as many costs that they can think of when owning a car. This includes purchasing and when you actually own the car.
- After the two minutes, ask all the students to stand up. Remain standing if they have at least 5 cost, 10 costs, 15 costs, 20 or more.
- Go around the class and have students read one cost off at a time. Have them write a check if they have the same cost or add the cost to their list. Do this until all costs have been read.
- After all of the answers have been read, add anything that the students may have missed .
- Discuss key points such as purchasing a car (Interest rate, down payment, monthly payment), insurance, gas, maintenance etc.

Time:

15 Minutes

Type:



Required Resources:

Instructor's Guide

Small Group Activities

Activities designed for small groups of students. These resources are best used after full-class direct instruction and activities.

Car Purchase Research

- Assign each group a different type of vehicle (sports car, new truck, used SUV, etc., or have students make their own selection; be sure groups are choosing a variety of vehicles to maximize the purpose of this lesson).

Have them record the price of:

- New or Used:
- Price/Monthly Payment
- Interest on loan/monthly
- Fees, Taxes upon purchase
- Gas/Month
- Insurance/Month
- Maintenance
- Car Tag
- Other

Have the students make a poster or presentation to explain the overall cost of the car that they were assigned.

They must then compare that car to the "Average" or another car in that same group

As a class, discuss the different costs and which car would be good for different groups of people (Family, High Schooler, Business Person)

Time:

20 Minutes

Type:



Required Resources:

- **Computer Access**

Conclusion

Remind students that there are many different costs that come with owning and buying a car. Also, that it is important to think about these costs when thinking about getting a car in order to ensure that you don't go over budget.

Remind them of the key terms:

- **Insurance-** a practice or arrangement by which a company or government agency provides a guarantee of compensation for specified loss, damage, illness, or death in return for payment of a premium.
- **Insurance deductible-** the amount you need to pay out of pocket before your insurance kicks in
- **Insurance Premium-** how much you pay each month for coverage
- **Down Payment-** an initial payment made when something is bought on credit.
- **Interest Rate-** the proportion of a loan that is charged as interest to the borrower, typically expressed as an annual percentage of the loan outstanding.
- **Maintenance Cost-** are the costs incurred to keep an item in good condition or good working order.