WHAT IS BUDGETING?

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WELCOME TO YOUR GROWING CENTS KIT

Ever wonder where your money goes — or how to make sure you don't run out? This kit will help you learn how to create a budget, make smart money choices, and start saving for the future. You'll explore what a budget is, why it matters, and how to build your own using fun activities and challenges.

This Kit Includes:

What is Budgeting?

Build a Budget!

Scenario Challenges

Word Search

Certificate of Completion: Celebrate your success

LETS START!

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WHAT IS BUDGETING?

What is a Budget?

A budget is a plan for how you will spend and save your money.

Key Terms:

Income = Money you receive

Expenses = Money you spend

Fixed Expense = Same amount every time (e.g. rent)

Variable Expense = Changes each time (e.g. eating out)

How Do You Make a Budget?

1. **Know Your Income** – How much money you have or earn
2. **List Your Expenses** – What you need to spend money on
3. **Separate Needs and Wants**
4. **Do the Math** – Make sure you're not spending more than you have
5. **Stick to It!**

Why Make a Budget?

- Helps you avoid running out of money
- Shows what you can afford
- Helps save for future goals
- Keeps your spending under control

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BUILD A BUDGET

You just earned $100 this month from babysitting and allowance. Below is a list of expenses. Create your own budget using this table:

Category	Amount Planned	Notes
Snacks		
School Supplies		
Entertainment		
Clothes		
Savings		
Gift for a Friend		
Emergency Fund		

How did you decide the amount for each category?

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SCENARIO CHALLENGE

Now its YOUR turn to apply the concept in different scenarios!
Think about what you've learned and circle your answer!

SCENARIO 1

You only have $10 left this month.
A) Buy movie tickets with friends
B) Put it in your emergency fund

SCENARIO 2

You've been saving for a new backpack, but a new video game just went on sale.
A) Buy the video game now
B) Keep saving for the backpack

SCENARIO 3

Your parents gave you $25 for doing extra chores.
A) Spend it all on snacks and drinks
B) Add it to your savings goal

SCENARIO 4

You want to buy a birthday gift for your friend but it's over your budget.
A) Make a homemade card and spend less
B) Borrow money from a sibling

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WORD SEARCH

Circle or highlight each word from the list below. Can you find them all? These are words every Smart Spender should know!

T	S	I	Y	T	S	R	E	M	W	X	R
V	P	N	Q	V	V	B	X	M	P	E	G
G	E	C	M	U	L	U	P	W	L	W	D
O	N	O	O	S	B	D	E	M	A	M	M
A	D	M	N	A	X	G	N	Z	N	G	E
L	G	E	E	V	W	E	S	S	K	D	D
P	L	E	Y	E	D	T	E	M	Y	A	H
O	F	L	X	A	B	T	K	Z	G	Q	P

WORD BANK:

INCOME SAVE GOAL PLAN

EXPENSE BUDGET SPEND MONEY

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CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

This certificate is proudly presented to:

_____

For their outstanding effort and smart money moves while completing the **What is Budgeting?** challenge

DATE:

_____

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