

Sacred Heart Grammar School, Newry

Resource Used: Talk Money, Talk Maths	Section: Talk Money, Talk Mobile Phones
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Year group: Year 8 Mathematics class

Introduction

This resource was produced to support teachers in delivering financial capability through mathematics. The resource has been produced in such a way as to allow teachers to customise the materials to suit their own specific needs. The resource focuses on the role of the banks, buying computers, going on holiday and buying a mobile phone. There are 3 levels of activities, allowing for progression. This lesson focuses on mobile phones and is delivered to a Year 8 group of pupils. It is intended that the pupils will develop a basic understanding of their own expenditure.

This resource is available to all schools and can be downloaded from the following link:

http://www.nicurriculum.org.uk/key_stage_3/areas_of_learning/mathematics_and_numeracy/index.asp.

<p>Learning Intentions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate mental mathematical capability. • Demonstrate financial capability in a range of relevant everyday contexts. • Work effectively with others. 	<p>Success Criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils should be able to calculate and compare the costs of different phone networks.
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Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities

- Make new connections between information
- Listen actively and share opinions

- Learn from and value other people's ideas and methods

Resources needed/used:

- Worksheets from booklet
- CD containing the PowerPoint presentation

Links across the Curriculum: ICT

Evaluation

Describe your comfort level when using the resource and that of the pupils?

I felt very comfortable using this resource, as the booklet contained a lot of excellent and relevant material. As a mathematics teacher I found the exercises on calculating how much in total Maureen and Jamie spent on their mobiles excellent. Students often have difficulty with calculations involving money and forgot about the different units, i.e. pounds and pence. The pupils really enjoyed this lesson as it was a topic very familiar to them, and it excluded nobody as all the pupils had mobile phones. Everyone wanted to share how much they spend on their phones, calls per minute, etc.

Would you describe the activity/lesson a success overall in terms of engaging pupils and achieving your learning intentions? Why, or why not?

I found both activities (Gold 1 and 2) a real success and will definitely integrate them into my lessons for next year. The pupils were really engaged during this lesson, and even the weaker students found the exercises enjoyable and manageable.

How well did the pupils fulfil the success criteria?

Pupils were able to successfully complete the exercises given in the booklet and able to compare the different networks.

Would the pupils have needed any background knowledge to fully engage in the lesson?

At the beginning of the lesson we discussed terminology such as peak and off-peak calls, and VAT. For the exercises the students would need a basic understanding of number work, i.e. adding, subtracting and multiplying with decimals. Next year I will integrate this exercise into the topic on

'Number Work'.

What additional support would be needed to make the activity/lesson more effective?

- Access to the internet, so the students could investigate different phone networks and the offers they have.

Is there anything you would do differently next time?

- Use it with an older group, as when it came to discussing 'where did we get the money to pay for our phones?' the majority of students' answer was their parents.
- I would get the students to calculate how much they spend in a week/month on their mobile phones.
- Research on the best deals available, internet, newspaper, etc.

If you could alter the resource (add, change or remove something), what would you change?

- I thought the resource was really excellent; however, the PowerPoint presentation could do with an update.

Could you have linked up with any other AOL for the delivery of this resource? Or, could another AOL have made use of the resource?

ICT – possibility of setting up a spreadsheet to compare different networks.

Would you like to make any other comments about the resource?

I have also used the Talk Banks, Talk Money and thought it was excellent as well.