

CASHY LESSON PLAN



TOPIC

SPOOKY HOLIDAYS (FINANCIAL PLANNING)

NOTES

LEARNING OUTCOMES

How to plan for the holidays
Understand long-term financial planning.

MATERIALS NEEDED

Planning sheet
Cashy game

INTRO

Consider some of the stats and discuss them together:

1. [13%](#) of shoppers use a buy now, pay later platform
2. [One survey found](#) that 40% of Americans didn't feel financially prepared for the holidays
3. [61 percent](#) of Americans don't have enough savings to cover a \$1,000 emergency.
4. [40 percent](#) of student loan borrowers are expected to go into default by 2023.
5. [33 percent](#) of American adults have \$0 saved for retirement.

Are these numbers surprising? Do you make presents? How do you save up for them?

ACTIVITIES

Many Americans find October - December to be the most stressful time of the year because holidays require a lot of spending. Besides presents, people have to think about:

- Special activities that usually have extra costs like going to an apple orchard or to a Christmas lights drive-through show
- While getting together with family is a special time, travel arrangements can be expensive
- Many families take special holiday trips like one for skiing or escaping somewhere warm

What do you think is a good way for preparing for the holidays? How do you think most people handle holiday expenses? Do you think they save a little each month or spend every penny of

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ACTIVITIES

their earnings during holiday months? What are some of the risks of buy now, pay later platforms? Have you seen them in online stores?

October is national financial planning month. Whether you are counting down days til Christmas or avoiding holiday music til December, let's take some time to plan together. Use the holiday planning sheet to budget and get some ideas about how you'll approach the holidays this year.

OUTRO/BONUS OPTION

You can play a few rounds of Cashy if the kids want to try out risky versus steady saving strategies (think: investing a lot at once for a hopeful gain aka gambling versus having a long-term strategy).

You could also require everyone to allocate some of their free time in Cashy to start a business and talk about how many small businesses thrive or struggle during the holidays. Large demand can be either a make or break for someone having a small business as a hobby or a side hustle.

ASSESSMENT

Students can either share their plans or they could write an exit card on a few takeaways.

**CASHY TEACHERS FB GROUP IS A GREAT PLACE TO SHARE
FEEDBACK AND IDEAS AND PLAY TOGETHER WITH OTHER
CLASSROOMS**

MY HOLIDAY MONEY PLAN

What if money was the only not-so-spooky part of the season?



| People I want to make presents for | What do they like | My budget for their present | Notes |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|-------|
| | | | |

What other extra expenses I might have besides presents from October - January?

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| How much i have saved up for holidays | My goal for holiday savings |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|

My plan for saving up enough money for the holidays this year

My plan for being financially prepared for the holidays as an adult