COST OF SMOKING

Topic Area: Consequences of tobacco use

Audience: Middle School/High School (with variation)

Method: Classroom Activity

Time Frame: 25 minutes plus discussion

Materials Needed: Cost of smoking worksheet for each student, calculator for each group.

Learning Objectives:

- Students will learn that smoking has other consequences of use besides negative health effects.

Activity:

- Pass out a "Cost of Smoking" worksheet to every student.
- Explain that a pack of cigarettes costs about $6.00 per pack, including taxes. Some cigarettes cost less, but some cost more.
- Ask them how much it would cost for someone to smoke ½ pack of cigarettes in one day, 2 packs in one day, and 1½ packs in one day. Check their answers, and if they are correct, have each student fill this out on their worksheet.
- Continue filling out the chart on the worksheets. Check their answers.
- Split the class up into 4-6 groups. Tell each group that they are going to spend the money they save by not smoking on the items on the worksheet.
- Assign each group a designated amount to spend: The amount of money that a person would spend on 1 pack per day for a month, or 1 pack a day for 10 years, or 2 packs a day for 1 year.
- Tell the groups that they can spend all of their money by buying as many of the items they want, in any combination they want.
- Have one student from each group stand up, say how much money they had to spend, and tell the class what they bought with that money.
- **VARIATION:** Bring in Sunday flyers and catalogs from department stores, toy stores, electronic stores, etc. to have them choose items to "purchase". This would be more appropriate for older students.

Discussion Ideas:

- Were you surprised at how much cigarettes cost? And how it adds up over time?
- Was it easy or hard to spend all the money? Why?
- What are some other things you can buy with the money you save if you don't smoke?

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COST OF SMOKING (CONTINUED)

ANSWER KEY

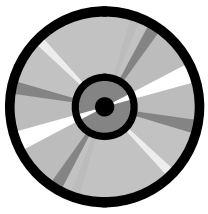
	½ Pack	1 Pack	1½ Packs	2 Packs
Day	6.00 / 2= **$3.00**	**$6.00**	6.00 x 1.5= **$9.00**	6.00 x 2= **$12.00**
Month	$3.00 x 30= **$90.00**	$6.00 x 30= **$180.00**	$9.00 x 30= **$270.00**	12.00 x 30= **$360.00**
Year	$3.00 x 365= **$1095.00**	$6.00 x 365= **$2190.00**	$9.00 x 365= **$3,285.00**	12.00 x 365= **$4,380.00**
10 Years	$1095.00 x 10= **$10,950.00**	$2190.00 x 10= **$21,900.00**	$3285.00 x 10= **$32,850.00**	$4380.00 x 10= **$43,800.00**

WORKSHEET

COST OF SMOKING

	½ Pack	1 Pack	1½ Packs	2 Packs
Day		**$6.00**		
Month				
Year				
10 Years				

With $_____, I could buy:



_____ Compact Discs

x $17 per CD

= $ _____

_____ Bicycles

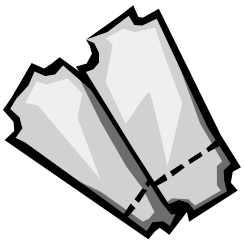
x $120 per bike

= $ _____

_____ Basketballs

x $10 per ball

= $ _____



_____ Movie Tickets

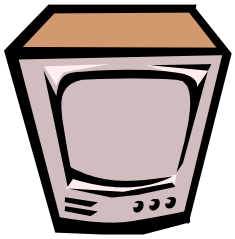
x $18 per pair of tickets

= $ _____

_____ Large Pizzas

x $15 per pizza

= $ _____



_____ TVs

x $100 per TV

= $ _____