

How much does it really cost to have a baby?

WebQuest Description: This webquest was designed to show teens how much it costs to have a baby.

Grade Level: 9-12

Curriculum: Health / PE

Keywords: baby, cost, pregnancy, teens

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Introduction

How much does it really cost to have a baby? If you are sexually active or thinking about becoming sexually active, you must ask yourself if you are ready to handle the responsibilities that come with it. Nearly 46% of 15-19 year old in the U.S have had sex at least once. Once is all it takes to get pregnant. Anytime you have unprotected sex, you risk not only contracting a disease but getting pregnant as well.

Tasks

To figure out how much it costs to care for a baby from birth until age 1.

Process

1- Check the online resources for what items you will need to care for a baby from birth to 1 years old.

http://www.buybuybaby.com/regchecklist.asp?order_num=-1&

<http://www.toysrus.com/shop/index.jsp?categoryId=2949236>

<http://www.babycenter.com/babyCostCalculator.htm>

<http://www.surebaby.com/costs.php>

<http://www.i-am-pregnant.com/encyclopedia/B/Baby-Cost-Calculator/>

http://pregnancy.lovetoknow.com/wiki/Cost_of_Having_a_Baby

http://pregnancy.thefuntimesguide.com/2009/01/cost_to_have_a_baby.php

<http://www.welfareinfo.org/>

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/FSP/>

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/wic/>

2- Compile a list of those items and how much each costs. Separate monthly expenses such as diapers or formula from "one-time" expenses such as furniture or stroller. Either create your own spreadsheet or download the 'Resources' section. Fill in all the necessary information to begin to calculate your total year costs to care for a baby. Please remember to save the spreadsheet on to your computer before adding any info. Insert cells for any item that you feel is missing.

3- After you have completed your list, you will choose to either work alone (single parent) or work with a partner. Each individual/group will receive a scenario from the teacher. The scenario will include your "life" at the time of pregnancy. For example, you could be a 22 year old college student who lives in your own apartment and works part time at Starbucks. Or you could be a young married couple who lives in a 2 bedroom co-op and earns \$85,000 together per year. (the scenarios will be more in-depth, these are simple examples)

4- Everyone must answer the following questions

a. How much is it going to cost you to care for your baby from birth to age 1

b. How did you budget your money? What did you leave off your final list that you had on your original list? Why?

c. What child care option would you have chosen for your baby? Why?

d. What, if any, governmental resources, would you have applied for?

e. Do you feel, that in the scenario, you were ready to have a baby? Why/Why not?

f. What sacrifices did you have to make, if any, because of the pregnancy and new baby?

g. Is choosing not to abstain from sex worth the risk of pregnancy?

5- Create either:

a. A poster or chart showing your scenario, costs and the answers to all questions from #4.

b. A video or skit describing your scenario, costs and answers to all questions from #4

c. A powerpoint presentation that describes your scenario, costs and all answers from # 4

Evaluation

POINT VALUE

5

4

3

2

1

CONTENT

Content is accurate and information is presented in a logical order

Content is accurate but some information is not presented in a logical order, but is still generally easy to follow.

Content is accurate but information is not presented in a logical order, making it difficult to follow.

Content is questionable and information is not presented in a logical order making it difficult to follow

Content is inaccurate. Information is not presented in a logical order making it difficult to follow.

PRESENTATION

Presentation flows well and logically. Presentation reflects extensive research and creativity

Presentation flows well. Presentation reflects moderate research and creativity.

Presentation reflects an acceptable understanding of content with minimal research and creativity.

Presentation is unorganized. Presentation displays incorrect or irrelevant content and lacks creativity

Presentation is unorganized. Presentation contains no evidence of research or creativity.

USE OF VISUAL AIDS (pictures, clip art, etc...)

Visual aids are appropriate and relevant. Layout shows creativity

Visual aids are appropriate and relevant. Layout is cluttered

Most visual aids are appropriate or relevant. Visual aids missing in some places.

Visual aids are inappropriate or missing.

No Visual Aids

MECHANICS

No spelling errors. No grammatical errors. All vocabulary is relevant and appropriate.

Few spelling errors. Some grammatical errors. Most vocabulary is relevant and appropriate.

Some spelling and/or grammatical errors. Inappropriate vocabulary or slang present.

Some major spelling or grammatical errors. Extensive use of inappropriate language.

Extensive spelling and/or grammatical errors. Extensive use or inappropriate language. Or- work was found to be plagiarized.

Category and Score					Score
				Total Score	

Conclusion

No matter your age, any time you have unprotected sex you risk getting pregnant. It costs a lot to care for a baby. If you are not ready to handle the financial and emotional responsibilities of being a parent, don't put yourself in a situation where it could happen.

Teacher Page

Preventing Unplanned and Teen Pregnancy: Why It Matters

"Teen pregnancy is closely linked to a host of other critical social issues — poverty and income, overall child well-being, out-of-wedlock births, responsible fatherhood, health issues, education, child welfare, and other risky behavior. There are also substantial public costs associated with adolescent childbearing. Consequently, teen pregnancy should be viewed not only as a reproductive health issue, but as one that works to improve all of these measures. Simply put, if more children in this country were born to parents who are ready and able to care for them, we would see a significant reduction in a host of social problems afflicting children in the United States, from school failure and crime to child abuse and

neglect." This quote is from the website: <http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/why-it-matters/default.aspx>

As a teacher of health and physical education at the high school level, I am continually disturbed by the number of girls each year who become pregnant. These young people do not comprehend the true responsibilities that comes with being a parent. I have found that the one thing that they do understand is money. I am hoping that by providing students with this webquest, and "showing them the money" it will help them make smarter choices about sex.

Standards

Credits

Other