

Fishy Friends

Key financial ideas

- ★ Deciding on the best choices can be hard. You may have to consider what are needs and what are wants. You can't always afford what you want!
- ★ How much you spend depends on the decisions you make.

You need

- ★ a pet-care costs sheet (see copymaster)

Activity

Tufulasi's story

I really wanted a pet. My sister's allergic to cats, and my dad doesn't like dogs. So I talked to him about other pets.

Papa, how about if I get an axolotl, or a turtle, or even a frog? They're really neat!

Have you thought about the cost of equipment, Tufulasi? It's not much fun for a frog to live in a jar!

David's mum said I can have the glass tank that's stored in their garage. I've also got \$50 that Uncle Fiva gave me for my birthday and \$40 I've saved from my pocket money.

Well, let's go and find out what pets like these cost. No harm in that, I guess! I've never seen an axolotl before.

The woman in the pet shop gives Tufulasi a sheet with all the set-up costs for various water creatures.

Use your pet-care costs sheet to answer the following questions. (Remember that Tufulasi already has a tank.)



- 1 a. Which water creature and *all* its equipment will Tufulasi be able to afford using *only* Uncle Fiva's money?
b. Which can he afford if he uses all the money he has?
- 2 Which costs for each water creature are essential, and which are not absolutely necessary?

Wouldn't a fish or frog get lonely on its own? Perhaps I could buy three fish and leave the ornaments for later!



- 3 a. Which water creature is the most expensive to set up?
b. Which food is the most expensive to buy?

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Tufulasi, haven't you got a problem if you use up all your money on set-up costs?



What hasn't Tufulasi thought about?

- 5 a. Which water creature would you choose to buy and why?
b. How might the lifespan of a water creature affect your decision to buy it?



Investigation

Investigate the price of filters. Why would you pay \$300 when you can get one for \$24?



Reflective question ★ What are the advantages and disadvantages of buying second-hand equipment to help you set up for a pet?