

Living On Your Own

MODULE 4



PACIFIC NW
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Questions?
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Living on Your Own

Objectives:

- Students will explore what it takes to be financially independent by exploring the items that they already own.
- Students will practice comprehension skills by reading and answering questions for a sample lease agreement. This will also provide students with knowledge of the aspects of a typical lease agreement.

Procedure:

1. Begin the lesson by asking students if they have ever thought about the price of their bedroom. Not just the physical space, but also the items that fill it? Lead a class discussion. Ask students to estimate what the items they own might have cost.
2. Next hand out the “Living on Your Own: The Cost to Furnish your Bedroom” worksheet. Ask students to answer each question. If they are unsure of the price have them look the item up, or something similar.
3. Go over each question as a class, asking for students to share what they came up with.
4. Next put students into groups (or if distance learning, assign each student a specific room to set up) and handout the “Living on Your Own: Calculate the cost of setting up an apartment or redecorating a home” worksheet.
5. Allow students time to research and answer each question. Ask them to find the average price of things. No, we’re not going to buy the million dollar couch for this activity.
6. Group students based on the rooms they researched. Ask students to find the average price of setting up their room based on all the data they collected.
7. Finish the lesson by having students read the “Sample Lease Agreement.” Read it as a group so you can help define each of the terms as you go through the agreement. When you are finished, instruct students to fill in the comprehension questions.
8. To close the lesson, lead a discussion about what students learned about living on their own. Is it more expensive or less expensive than they assumed? Had they ever thought about the amount their parents or guardians put into their personal space?

Extension:

Interview your family and friends about:

- How much it costs to rent an apartment
- How costs are divided up among roommates
- The pros and cons of having roommates
- What to pay attention to when reading a lease
- What it costs to furnish an apartment
- Setting up and sticking to a budget

2. Write up your findings. As a class, collate your findings and create a “The Price to Move Out” Handbook.

Sample Lease Agreement

Directions: Read the rental and lease agreement below and answer the questions that follow.

Rental and Lease Agreement

The lessor in this agreement is Apartments for You, Inc.

The name of the tenant, or lessee, is Evelyn Love.

Apartment 3-B will be referred to as “the premises.”

The monthly rental amount is \$875.00. This includes water, sewer, and \$50.00 for a pet.

\$350.00 is the dollar amount that will be referred to as the security deposit.

\$200.00 is the amount referred to as the pet fee. This fee is non-refundable. No pet over 20 lbs. is allowed.

\$15.00 is the dollar amount referred to as the key deposit.

\$30.00 is the dollar amount charged for late fees after the 5th of each month.

The lessor leases the premises to the lessee for the term of one year according to the following conditions:

- 1) The lessee agrees to pay the monthly rental amount of \$875.00 on or before the first day of each month.
- 2) The lessee will pay the lessor a security deposit of \$350.00. The lessor may take all or part of the security deposit should damages occur due to:
 - a) Nonpayment of rent
 - b) Damage to the premises

- c) Failure to return the premises in a cleaned condition
- 3) Should the premises be vacated by the lessee before the expiration of the term of the lease, the lessee will be responsible for the monthly payment until the lease expires.
- 4) If the tenant is more than five days late in paying the monthly rental payment of \$875.00, the tenant will pay a \$30.00 late fee in addition to the rent.
- 5) The lessee will lose his key deposit if he loses his key to the premises.
- 6) The tenant, his family, and guests will follow the rules in this agreement. The tenant may be evicted if these rules are not followed:
 - a) Smoking is not allowed inside the apartment.
 - b) There are to be no more than 5 visitors at a time.
 - c) Loud music is not permitted.

Signature _____ Date_____

Questions:

1. How long is the term of this lease agreement? _____

2. How could the tenant lose her deposit?

3. Will she get the \$200 pet fee back? _____

4. What happens if the tenant moves out before the lease expires?

5. Name two rules in the lease agreement.

6. When is the rent due? _____

7. How much will the lessee pay if she pays the rent after the 5th of the month? _____