

# This or That (Would you rather...)

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This activity can be used to reflect on a financial concept. In *This or that*, each of the organizing concepts in the Financial literacy concept map can be examined. For example: *saving, spending, and planning for the future.*

**Time required: 10-20 minutes**

## Purpose

This activity allows for students to find commonality within the class by comparing and discussing decisions in different spending, saving, and planning for the future scenarios. Students will have the opportunity to understand the possible positive and negative outcomes for their decisions.

## Materials

- one “This or That” card for each student in the class, cut out (you may want to choose one topic for each game, i.e. “saving”).
- In this example:
  - Yellow cards are example **Planning for the future** questions
  - Green cards are example **Spending** questions
  - Blue cards are example **Saving** questions

## Set-up

- Arrange students in one large circle around the room (or in smaller groups around a table).
- Give each participant one This or That question that they are to answer in turn. This works best if you can give a question that you think reflects the participant or their personality.

## Instructions

- Each person reads their card aloud to the class and answers their question.
- Allow time for group response either naturally or poll the group with the same question.
- Work around your group until each person has participated.

## Variant

- One player is asked a question at one time by the facilitator.
- Once he or she has answered the question, the rest of the players answer the same question.
- If the majority is in agreement with the player, then he or she gets a point.

- Encourage discussion with support for answers.

## **Consolidation/Debrief**

**Discuss the following with your group after playing:**

- 1. What critical questions or other consolidation activities would support reflection of learning after the activity?**
- 2. How could this fit into your curriculum? What expectations can this activity align with?**

Example SPENDING questions

This or that...

Take a vacation now and not be able to take one for ten years or wait 4 years and take your vacation then take one every 4 years after?

This or that...

Have the latest cell phone and data plan or older cell phone that can only talk and text but be able to go the movies once a week?

This or that...

Would you rather live without music or live without T.V.?

This or that...

Would you rather not be able to use voice on your phone or text?

This or that...

Would you rather buy a new Coach purse or buy a fall wardrobe at Winners?

This or that...

Would you rather eat four times a week at fast food restaurant or once a month at a nice restaurant (spending the same amount)?

Example SPENDING questions

This or that...

Would you rather have great seats to your favourite hockey team's home game or a laptop computer (spending the same amount).

This or that...

You need a new computer. Do you buy one today but take 3 years to pay it off or wait one year until you have enough money to buy?

This or that...

Free Starbucks for a year or free iTunes downloads for a month?

Example SAVING questions

This or that...

You have a chance to win a prize if you choose a red jellybean from a jar of white jellybeans. Would you rather choose a jar with one red bean and 9 white beans or 8 red beans in a jar with 92 white beans?

This or that...

Would you rather have \$1,000,000 now or \$50,000 a year for the rest of your life? (assume both sums after taxes)

This or that...

You have just received a \$10,000 gift. Do you pay off your debts or invest the money?

This or that...

Would you rather be 100 percent debt free or have a good credit score?

This or that...

Would you rather buy a bond at a discount or a premium rate?

This or that...

Assume that you have received \$50,000 from an inheritance. Do you use the money to erase your debts or loans or use it for a trip?

Example SAVING questions

This or that...

Getting \$100,000 for sure or 50%  
chance of getting \$10,000,000 and  
50% chance of nothing.

Example PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE questions

This or that...

Would you rather buy everything you want but have to work full-time for 50 years or half of everything you want and only work full-time for 35 years?

This or that...

Would you rather have everything you have dreamt of (materialistically) or have the love of the one you love?

This or that...

For the same amount of money have a job you love but have to work 60 hours a week or have a job you hate and work 40 hours a week?

This or that...

Would you rather be an unknown minor league hockey player or a famous professional badminton star?

This or that...

Would you rather give bad advice or take bad advice?

This or that...

Would you want to be forever 21 years old physically if it meant that you were also forever 21 financially?

Example PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE questions

This or that...

Would you rather have every detail of your love life made public or have the details of your finances made public?

This or that...

In a conversation would you rather always have the first word or the last?

This or that...

A dream vacation for two weeks or spend time with anyone in the world for 5 day but you must do it your hometown?