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| About this Lesson |
| Students will compare the social benefits and costs of buying versus renting a home and will describe the potential impacts of both choices on individuals and society. |

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| **Grade Level** | **Course(s)/subject(s)** | **Learning Goal(s)** | **Suggested****Timing** |
| 8 | GeographyLanguage | I will be able to describe the social costs and benefits of buying versus renting. I will be able to communicate my preference for buying versus renting using three-dimensional media. | 2 x 40–50 minutes = 80–100 minutes |

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| Curriculum Links |
| Grade 8 Geography B1: * Application: Analyze some interrelationships among factors that contribute to global inequalities, with a focus on inequalities in quality of life, and assess various responses to these inequalities
* Analyze how various factors have affected the economies of specific developed and developing countries around the world

Grade 8 Media Literacy2 OverallCreate a variety of media texts for different purposes and audiences, using appropriate forms, conventions and techniques2.1 SpecificExplain how individual elements of various media forms combine to create, reinforce and/or enhance meaning |

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| Inquiry Question |
| In what way(s) does the decision to rent or buy a home contribute to the quality of life, both for the individual and for society? |

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| Materials List |
| * Markers
* Appendix A: The Cost of Buying a House
* Appendix B: The Cost of Renting a House
* Appendix C: Questions Cube Template
* Appendix D: Rubric
* Appendix E: Suggested Research Websites
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| **Timing**(Mins.) | **Lesson Sequence** | **Assessment for and as Learning Opportunities** (self/peer/teacher) |
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| MINDS ON |
| 10–15 minutes | * Ask students if they have any idea of how much a house costs. Show some examples of house prices (sample site: [www.realtor.ca](http://www.realtor.ca))
* Ask the students whether they think that they would rather buy a home or rent.
* Discuss why. (Examples of reasons could be: Good long-term investment, parents say it is a good idea, houses have made a lot of money in the past)
* Many of them may choose to buy a house. Emphasize that they might not be familiar with all the costs associated with buying a house.
* Ask them, “At what point would you rather buy and when it would be better to rent?”
* In two separate sides of the room, put up poster paper. One should be entitled “Costs and Benefits of Buying a Place to Live” and the other should say “Costs and Benefits of Renting a Place to Live.”
* Put markers out for the students by each of the signs. Have the students add their ideas to each chart.
 | Assessment for Learning – Observations & Anecdotal Notes: What do students conceptualize about housing prices? Do they understand how much a house truly costs? |
| ACTION |
| 40–60 minutes | Compare Cost of Renting versus Buying* Explain to the students that while many people want to buy a house, there are many factors to take into consideration. Depending on the circumstance, it may be better to rent a house, instead of buying.
 | Assessment for Learning – Observations & Anecdotal Notes: |

| **Timing**(Mins.) | **Lesson Sequence** | **Assessment for and as Learning Opportunities** (self/peer/teacher) |
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| ACTION (cont’d.) |
| 40–60 minutes | * Considering debt and expenses, have the students determine the annual cost of owning and renting a house. Students can either find the information on their own or use the suggested research websites (Appendix E). Have them calculate costs on the Housing Cost Sheets (Appendices A & B) for both buying and renting, such as:

○ Property taxes○ Land transfer taxes○ Mortgage○ Realtor fees (legal fees and disbursements)○ Utilities○ Home insurance○ Phone/cable/Internet○ Maintenance costs (furnace, plumbing)○ Home inspection○ Moving expenses○ Appraisals○ Condo feesBuying* Have students calculate the cost of buying a house on Appendix A
* Choose an area in which to live within your community (town, city, neighbourhood)
* Brainstorm costs (roofing, heating, energy and other costs)
* List advantages of buying:

○ Own the property, it is yours○ Make money when you sell the property○ Emotionally invested in the property○ Any others?* List disadvantages of buying

○ There are a lot of unknown costs○ You have little control over your neighbours○ Any others? | Assessment for Learning – Observations & Anecdotal Notes: |

| **Timing**(Mins.) | **Lesson Sequence** | **Assessment for and as Learning Opportunities** (self/peer/teacher) |
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| ACTION (cont’d.) |
|  | Renting* Have students calculate the cost of renting a home on Appendix B
* Brainstorm costs associated with renting
* List advantages of renting:

○ Costs are known○ Money that would be put into a house can be put into other investments○ There are very few unknown costs○ If you don’t like your neighbours, it is easy to move○ Any others?* List disadvantages of renting:

○ You do not get any capital gains (make money) from selling a house ○ You do not own the house you are living in○ The landlord may or may not be any good○ You will probably not be as emotionally invested in the property as if you own○ Any others? Individually, use the information from the activity to answer the questions below:1. Title: Choose whether you would rather buy or rent.
2. What benefit(s) would there be for you to choose to rent or buy?
3. Besides the dollar cost, what are some advantages of renting? Buying?
4. After looking at the costs, both monetary and otherwise, which would you choose: to rent or to buy?
5. (Two reasons, two sides) Explain in detail, using numbers and examples from your research, why you would make your choice to rent or buy.
* Have students use information from the questions they answered to fill out the Cube Template (Appendix C).
* The students can then present their cubes to the class, giving their reasons and justification for their choice.
* Students can use the provided Cube Template (Appendix C) or they can make their own size and/or shape if they wish to be more creative or have more room.
 | Assessment for Learning- Observations & Anecdotal Notes: |
| CONSOLIDATION/DEBRIEF |
| 10–20 minutes | **Follow up:** * On one side of the room post the poster for Renting
* On the other side post the poster for Buying
* Have students take their cubes and stand on the side of the room that matches their choice
* Depending on how many students chose to stand on a particular side, ask students:
* Why they think more chose to buy (rent) rather than rent (buy)?

OR * Why did the same number of students choose to buy and rent?

OR* What would the impact be to society if more people choose to buy than rent?
 | Assessment as Learning – Rubric (Appendix D) |

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| The Cost of Buying a House |
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| **The Cost of Buying** |
| **Recurring Costs** |
| Name of Cost | Costs | Times per Year | Total Cost |
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| **Potential One-Time Costs** |
| Name of Cost | Costs | Times per Year | Total Cost |
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**APPENDIX A**

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| The Cost of Buying a House (cont’d.) |
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| **The Cost of Buying** |
| **Social/ Emotional Costs** |
| Name of Cost | Costs | Times per Year | Total Cost |
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**APPENDIX A**

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| The Cost of Renting a House |
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| **The Cost of Renting** |
| **Recurring Costs** |
| Name of Cost | Costs | Times per Year | Total Cost |
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| **Potential One-Time Costs** |
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**APPENDIX B**

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| The Cost of Renting a House (cont’d.) |
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| **The Cost of Renting** |
| **Social/Emotional Costs** |
| Name of Cost | Costs | Times per Year | Total Cost |
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**APPENDIX B**

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| Questions Cube Template |
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**APPENDIX C**

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| Rubric |
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| **GEOGRAPHY** |
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| Student is able to analyze some interrelationships among factors that contribute to inequalities | Demonstrates limited understanding of interrelationships among factors that contribute to inequalities | Demonstrates some interrelationships among factors that contribute to inequalities | Demonstrates considerable understanding of interrelationships among factors that contribute to inequalities | Demonstrates thorough understanding of interrelationships among factors that contribute to inequalities |
| Student is able to analyze how various factors have affected the economies of specific developed and developing countries around the world | Demonstrates limited ability to analyze how various factors have affected the economies of specific developed and developing countries around the world | Demonstrates some ability to analyze how various factors have affected the economies of specific developed and developing countries around the world | Demonstrates considerable ability to analyze how various factors have affected the economies of specific developed and developing countries around the world | Demonstrates thorough ability to analyze how various factors have affected the economies of specific developed and developing countries around the world |
| **MEDIA** |
| Create a variety of media texts for different purposes and audiences, using appropriate forms, conventions and techniques | Demonstrates limited ability to create a variety of media texts for different purposes and audiences, using appropriate forms, conventions and techniques | Demonstrates some ability to create a variety of media texts for different purposes and audiences, using appropriate forms, conventions and techniques | Demonstrates considerable ability to create a variety of media texts for different purposes and audiences, using appropriate forms, conventions and techniques | Demonstrates thorough ability to create a variety of media texts for different purposes and audiences, using appropriate forms, conventions and techniques |
| Explain how individual elements of various media forms combine to create, reinforce and/or enhance meaning | Demonstrates limited ability to explain how individual elements of various media forms combine to create, reinforce and/or enhance meaning | Demonstrates some ability to explain how individual elements of various media forms combine to create, reinforce and/or enhance meaning | Demonstrates considerable ability to explain how individual elements of various media forms combine to create, reinforce and/or enhance meaning | Demonstrates thorough ability to explain how individual elements of various media forms combine to create, reinforce and/or enhance meaning |

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**APPENDIX D**

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| Suggested Research Websites |
| <https://www.greedyrates.ca/blog/know-when-to-rent-em-know-when-to-buy-em/><https://www.ratesupermarket.ca/blog/cost-of-buying-vs-renting-in-ontario-infographic/><https://www.incharge.org/housing/homebuyer-education/homeownership-guide/advantages-and-disadvantages-of-owning-a-home/><https://www.property24.com/property101/rent-vs-buy-guide/pros-and-cons-of-buying-and-renting/17510> |

**APPENDIX E**