$\qquad$
Buying a Car Activity
Hour $\qquad$

## INTRODUCTION

For the past few years you've been thinking about what it will be like to own your very own car-not one that your parents let you use, not one you have to share with siblings - your own! The time has come! Your parents have told you that if you wanted a car that you would have to "foot the bill" yourself. You've always said you wanted a sporty silver Camaro with racing stripes and now you have your chance... sort of. Let's see if you can afford your dream car and what you'll need to do.


## THE TASK: Section 1 Wants and Needs

Directions: Identify your personal transportation wants \& needs by answering the following questions:
How will you use your car? Choose all that apply.

| $\square$ | Drive to school | $\square$ | Drive to work |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\square$ | Carry friends | $\square$ | Carry family members |
| $\square$ | Hauling | $\square$ | Sports and Recreation |

What kinds of roads will you drive on? This will help you decide whether you need a front-wheel, rearwheel, or four-wheel drive vehicle.

| $\square$ | Highway | $\square$ | City |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\square$ | Suburban | $\square$ | Rural |
| $\square$ | Off-road | $\square$ | Mountain roads \& Snow conditions |

Where will you park your car most of the time? Your parking space will determine the amount of money you will want to spend if the car isn't protected from the weather or theft.

| $\square$ | Driveway | $\square$ | Street |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\square$ | Parking lot | $\square$ | Garage |

What extra features would you like in a car?

| $\square$ | Sun roof/Moon roof | $\square$ | Manual or automatic transmission |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\square$ | Air-conditioning | $\square$ | Traction control |
| $\square$ | CD player | $\square$ | Power windows and doors |
| $\square$ | Antilock brakes | $\square$ | Tinted windows |
| $\square$ | Power steering | $\square$ | Airbags |
| Other |  |  |  |

How will you pay for your vehicle? You need to know how you will pay for your car to prepare for financing a loan, if required.
Cash Loan

How will you carry insurance? Identifying your insurance requirements will help you gain an accurate quote from an insurance company.

Your parents' policy $\quad \square \quad$ Your own policy
Do you qualify for any insurance discounts? Knowing what discounts you qualify for will help you to get an accurate quote from an insurance company.

| $\square$ | Good student | $\square$ | Non-drinking and nonsmoking |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\square$ | Driver's education | $\square$ | No past accidents or tickets |

THE TASK: Section 2 Vehicle Selection
Directions: 1) Identify types of vehicles that meet your specifications for features in the following categories. NOTE: You must have 2 types of vehicles in each of the following categories:
a. Sub-compact car priced under $\$ 15,000$
b. Mid-sized car priced under $\$ 25,000$
c. Luxury car priced over $\$ 45,000$
2) Research to compare pricing and features for your choices. Record the year, make, model and price of the car. Online resources include: $\begin{array}{llll}\text { www.carpoint.com } & \text { www.BBB.com } & \text { www.automall.com } & \text { www.nadaguides.com } \\ \text { www.consumerreports.com } & \text { www.AutoNation.com } & \text { www.autobytel.com } & \text { www.carfax.com }\end{array}$
3) If the dealer pays only $92 \%$ of the sticker price, calculate the dealer's cost \& fill in the table below.
4) You decide to offer $4 \%$ above the dealer's cost. Calculate your offer and fill in the table below.
5) Using your offer, add $6 \%$ sales tax in order to calculate the purchase price \& fill in the table below.

| CATEGORY/ FEATURES | YEAR | MAKE | MODEL | PRICE | $\begin{array}{c}\text { DEALER'S COST } \\ \text { [92\% of price] }\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{c}\text { YOUR OFFER } \\ \text { [4\% above dealer } \\ \text { cost] }\end{array}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| Subcompact/ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| [YOUR OFFER + 6\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SALES TAX] |  |  |  |  |  |  |$]$

THE TASK: Section 3 Financing
Directions: Find out how much it would be to finance your cars.
Type into google: "Auto Loan Calculator". Pick the Bankrate option.
Enter the purchase price, down payment, interest rate and loan term. When entering info into the payment calculator AND when filing out the table below please keep in mind the following assumptions:

- Your down payment is going to be $20 \%$ of the purchase price
- The interest rate will be $7 \%$
- The term is 36 months

| VEHICLE <br> (from table on <br> prior page) | PURCHASE <br> PRICE <br> (from table <br> on prior <br> page) | DOWN <br> PAYMENT <br> (20\% of <br> purchase <br> price) | AMOUNT <br> FINANCED <br> (purchase <br> price- down <br> payment) | INTEREST <br> RATE | LOAN <br> TERM | MONTHLY <br> PAYMENT | TOTAL <br> AMOUNT <br> REPAID | COST OF <br> LOAN <br> (total <br> interest <br> paid) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | $7 \%$ | 36 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | $7 \%$ | 36 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | $7 \%$ | 36 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## THE TASK: Section 4 Insurance

Directions: Find out how much it would be to insure your car. Choose one you researched from each of the 3 categories (sub-compact/ midsized/ luxury).
a) Using each car's feature's complete the survey on the following website to receive a free quote: Essurance.com
** You may have to enter personal information to have the rates listed for you. DO NOT give your social security info or your home address-use the school address instead: 45700 Six Mile Rd. Use your actual birth date to get accurate quotes. Some companies use address and social security number info to solicit business others simply use it to obtain the most accurate geographical data. Use good online judgment.
b) Vehicle Information: Enter the year, make and model of ONE of the cars you are selecting. Choose FINANCING as your payment, COMMUTE as your primary use and estimate ANNUAL MILAGE at 15,000 miles
c) Enter accurate driver information. You are the only one in the household you are getting a quote for and you are not authorizing any other drivers.
d) Skip the discounts and enter your email address at the bottom
e) After it provides you a basic quote, customize your policy with the "Build Your Own" tab. Use the following information:

| Types of Insurance | Coverage |
| :--- | :--- |
| Bodily Injury Liability (BI) | $\$ 100,000 / \$ 300,000$ |
| Property Damage Liability(PD) | $\$ 100,000$ |
| Limited Property Damage Liability | Decline |
| Personal Injury Protection (PIP) | $\$ 300$ deductible |
| Property Protection (PP) | $\$ 1,000,000$ |
| Uninsured Motorist BI | $\$ 100,000 / \$ 300,000$ |
| Comprehensive (COMP) | $\$ 250$ deductible |
| Collision (COLL) | $\$ 500$ deductible / Broad form |
| Emergency Road Service (ERS) | Accept |
| Rental Reimbursement (RR) | Decline |
| Mechanical Breakdown Service | Decline |

f) Find the 6 month premium \& record in the table. (NOT the big orange \#-it's in the small print below!!)
g) Use the 6 month quote to calculate the monthly payment and the annual premium

| VEHICLE | 6 MONTH QUOTE | MONTHLY INSUR. PYMT | ANNUAL PREMIUM |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

1)Which car had the most expensive \& which had the least expensive insurance? Why do you think that is?
2) Were you surprised by how much insurance costs? Explain.

THE TASK: Section 5 Maintenance
Directions: Choose ONE of the three cars from section 4 and estimate how much it will cost you to keep your chosen vehicle on the road.

## EXPENSES

(Monthly Operating Costs)
COSTS

## Taxes \& Fees

Calculate the fees for registration and tabs by finding $.05 \%$ of the base price of your selected car.divide by 12 months in a year.

| Registration | $=\$$ | Annual fees |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total Monthly Taxes \& Fees | $=\$$ | Monthly fees |

## Maintenance

The average person drives their car 15,000 miles per year. Use this number to estimate maintenance expenses. Check with your parents, call repair shops or search online for estimates. Divide the result of this multiplication by 12 months in a year.

## Oil change and lubrication

Every 3,000 miles = 5 times per year $\times \$$ (enter cost) $\$$
Tire rotation (every 5,000 miles $=3$ times per year $\times \$$ __ $($ enter cost $)=\$$
Tune-up (every 30,000 miles = $1 / 2$ times per year $x \$$ _ (enter cost)= \$
Total Monthly Maintenance =\$

## Gas

Estimate your annual fuel cost at: www.fueleconomy.gov based on the average of 15,000 miles per year. In the "Find \& Compare Cars" section on the left, click "Compare Side by Side" and enter your car's info. Find the Annual Fuel cost and record. Then, divide by 12 to find the monthly fuel cost.
Annual Fuel Cost $=\$$

Total monthly gas = \$

## Insurance \& Car Payment

Monthly Car Payment (from Section 3) = \$

## Total monthly insurance (from Section 4) = \$

Total Monthly Operating Expenses
= \$

1. Were you surprised how much it costs to operate and maintain a car? Explain why or why not.
2. Would you be able to afford a car on your own? Explain.
3. Through this process, what did you learn about the car buying process?
