

My Place Activities

My Place contains 21 current activities that let your students do so much more than just read and answer questions. They'll use their math skills, thinking skills, writing skills and creative skills while they learn about renting an apartment, living with roommates, buying a home and more.

The activities are divided into the following five categories:

- Renting An Apartment
- Roommates
- Buying A Home
- You Decide
- Be Creative

Each activity includes one or more reproducible student pages and a teacher's key with answers, suggestions and step-by-step math solutions where appropriate.

Listed below and on the following pages are detailed descriptions of each activity.

My Place Assessment

An **Assessment** is also included that can be used as a pre-test as well as a post-test to evaluate what your students have learned and to identify those areas that might require additional instruction.

The assessment includes:

- 20 True or False questions
- 5 multi-step math problems.

Activity Descriptions

Category 1: Renting An Apartment

Miguel's Apartment

Students will create an apartment evaluation check list. They will calculate and compare Miguel's rent expenses for various apartments. They will answer questions about Miguel's renters insurance. They will list ten things Miguel should consider before signing a rental agreement.

Ellie's Apartment

Students will calculate Ellie's biweekly net pay. They will explain how Ellie could find a roommate. Based on Ellie's net pay and whether or not she wants a roommate, they will select an appropriate apartment. They will make a list of furnishings she will need and evaluate methods of acquiring the furnishings.

Kyle's Renter's Insurance

Students will use an outline of Kyle's renter's insurance to answer a series of questions concerning what the policy will and will not cover in different situations.

Furnishing Katelyn's Apartment

Students will use a budget of \$2,000 to purchase furnishings for Katelyn's apartment from a list of 25 items. They will also list sources of furnishings for Katelyn that would be inexpensive or free.

Furnishing Your Apartment

Students will use a budget of \$4,500 to purchase furnishings for an apartment from a list of over 70 items. They will calculate the total cost including a sales tax of 6%. They will also sketch the furniture arrangement in the apartment.

Category 2: Roommates

Roommates

Students will make a list of what is good and bad about having a roommate. They will decide what roommates should and should not share. They will also make a list of items that they think should be included in a roommate contract.

Alec Needs A Roommate

Based on Alec's income, the cost of living in Boston and examples of Boston rent, students will list the benefits and drawbacks to Alec of having a roommate. They will explain how he should find a roommate being new to Boston and list the items he should include in a roommate contract.

Ask Andy

Students will play the part of a writer for the syndicated advice column *Ask Andy* and write replies to three different emails from readers who are having roommate problems.

The World's Worst Roommate

Students will write the story of the world's worst roommate based on a situation in which three people are sharing an apartment.

A Roommate Contract

Students will create a detailed roommate contract including what is expected of each roommate and how problems will be resolved.

Category 3: Buying A Home

The Marshal's First Home

Students will create an evaluation check list that Mike and Rachel Marshal will use to evaluate an older home they want to buy. They will calculate the costs of the Marshal's home loan at various interest rates and amortize the loan for the first four months.

The Marshal's Homeowner's Insurance

Students will use an outline of the Marshal's homeowner's insurance to answer a series of questions concerning what the policy will and will not cover in different situations.

Ways To Save On Utility Bills

Students will suggest ways that the Marshal's can save on their natural gas and electric bills in the older home they have purchased.

Mortgage Rates (1971-2009)

Students will calculate the total of payments and the total interest paid on a \$100,000 home loan using the average annual, 30-year fixed mortgage rate from 1971-2009. They will answer related questions.

Category 4: You Decide

Chris' Apartment

Students will decide if Chris has made good or bad decisions in relation to six different situations related to his apartment and his roommate.

Megan's Condo

Students will decide if Megan has made good or bad decisions in relation to six different situations related to her purchase of a condominium.

Category 5: Be Creative

River Ridge Apartments

Students will design the floor plans for four different size apartments in the River Ridge Apartment complex.

The Think Tank

Students will work together to plan a new apartment complex for tenants of all ages. They will define different types of households that will live in the complex. They will list items that will be important to have in the apartments and public areas for the different types of households. They will also create a layout of the complex and give it a name.

The Most Energy Efficient House

Students will design the world's most energy efficient house based on a series of guidelines. They will make a list of the energy efficient features and number them on their design drawing.

Lights, Camera, Action #1

Students will play the part of a script writer for the educational TV series "Living Today" who is responsible for an episode titled *Renting An Apartment*. The episode will be divided into three segments. They will list the main points of each of the three segments and storyboard one of those three segments.

Lights, Camera, Action #2

Students will play the part of a script writer for the educational TV series "Living Today" who is responsible for an episode titled *Buying A Home*. The episode will be divided into three segments. They will list the main points of each of the three segments and storyboard one of those three segments.

The apartments Ellie is considering are listed below.

| Location and Amenities | Miles to Work | Bedrooms | Baths | Sq. Feet | Rent |
|--|---------------|----------|--------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Barnes Plantation 1,2,3,4,5,6 St. Simons Island, GA | 1 | 1 2 | 1 2 | 775 1242 | \$ 950.00 1,100.00 |
| Legacy Apartments 1,3 Brunswick, GA | 7 | 1 2 | 1 2 | 800 1157 | \$ 675.00 775.00 |
| Deckhouse (studio) 1,3 Brunswick, GA | 9 | 1 2 | 1 1 | 320 850 | \$ 595.00 795.00 |
| Merritt Landing 1,3 Brunswick, GA | 9 | 1 2 | 1 1 | 682 925 | \$ 500.00 570.00 |
| Fox Run 1,2,3 Brunswick, GA | 8 | 1 2 | 1 2 | 824 1166 | \$ 680.00 800.00 |
| Millcrest 1,2,3,6 Brunswick, GA | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1100 | \$1,000.00 |

Amenities

1. Fully Equipped Kitchen
2. Pool
3. Fitness Center
4. Business Center
5. Garage
6. Security

3. Based on her income, which apartment do you think she should rent in each of these situations? Explain why.

She plans on having no roommate.



She plans on finding a roommate after she starts work, rents an apartment and has time to settle in.

Name:

Period:

After looking at both older homes and new construction, Mike and Rachel Marshal decided to buy a small, two story, older home that needed quite a bit of updating. They made an offer of \$89,000 and it was accepted.

On Friday afternoon, they went to their bank to discuss financing the house. They decided to make a 10% down payment plus closing costs and finance the remainder with a 30 year, fixed rate mortgage.



2. Follow the directions given below to compute their home loan costs and see just how much it will cost them to buy the house.

- **AMOUNT FINANCED:** Multiply the price of the home (\$89,000) by the down payment (.10). Subtract your answer from the price of the home. This is the amount they must finance.

\$ _____

- **MONTHLY PAYMENTS:** Their monthly payments can be found on the chart on the right. The section of the chart which is used will depend on the interest rate being charged. (*Your teacher will determine which interest rate you are to use.*) Under the column headed AMOUNT, find the amount financed. The monthly payment is found in the column which represents the interest rate you are using.

\$ _____

- **NUMBER OF PAYMENTS :** Multiply the number of years in the loan (30) by the number of months in a year (12).

- **TOTAL OF PAYMENTS:** Multiply the number of payments by the monthly payment.

\$ _____

- **FINANCE CHARGE:** Subtract the amount financed from the total of payments.

\$ _____

| Amount | 6% | 9% | 12% |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 100 | .60 | .81 | 1.03 |
| 200 | 1.20 | 1.61 | 2.06 |
| 300 | 1.80 | 2.42 | 3.09 |
| 400 | 2.40 | 3.22 | 4.12 |
| 500 | 3.00 | 4.03 | 5.15 |
| 600 | 3.60 | 4.83 | 6.18 |
| 700 | 4.20 | 5.64 | 7.21 |
| 800 | 4.80 | 6.44 | 8.23 |
| 900 | 5.40 | 7.25 | 9.26 |
| 1,000 | 6.00 | 8.05 | 10.29 |
| 2,000 | 12.00 | 16.10 | 20.58 |
| 3,000 | 17.99 | 24.14 | 30.86 |
| 4,000 | 23.99 | 32.19 | 41.15 |
| 5,000 | 29.98 | 40.24 | 51.44 |
| 6,000 | 35.98 | 48.28 | 61.72 |
| 7,000 | 41.97 | 56.33 | 72.01 |
| 8,000 | 47.97 | 64.37 | 82.29 |
| 9,000 | 53.96 | 72.42 | 92.58 |
| 10,000 | 59.96 | 80.47 | 102.87 |
| 12,000 | 71.95 | 96.56 | 123.44 |
| 14,000 | 83.94 | 112.65 | 144.01 |
| 16,000 | 95.93 | 128.74 | 164.58 |
| 18,000 | 107.92 | 144.84 | 185.16 |
| 20,000 | 119.92 | 160.93 | 205.73 |
| 25,000 | 149.89 | 201.16 | 257.16 |
| 30,000 | 179.89 | 241.39 | 308.59 |
| 35,000 | 209.85 | 281.62 | 360.02 |
| 40,000 | 239.83 | 321.85 | 411.45 |
| 50,000 | 299.78 | 402.32 | 514.31 |

Sample

Name: _____

Period: _____