

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

ACTIVITY

Money Moves Matrix

What + Why: Figure out which expenses are locked in and which ones you actually have control over.

Before adding new expenses to a budget, it's important to understand which costs are predictable and consistent (fixed) and which are flexible (variable). In this activity, you'll analyze Jordan's monthly expenses to determine where there is control and where there is less room to make changes.

Supporting Materials:

Jordan's Financial Snapshot (Case Study)

Instructions:

1. With your partner, review Jordan's monthly expenses shown in the **Jordan's Financial Snapshot (Part 2: Jordan's Current Monthly Expenses)** case study chart.
2. Write each expense in the appropriate box of the matrix classifying it as a Fixed Need, Variable Need, Fixed Want or Variable Want.
3. Calculate the totals for each area of the matrix and a grand total for Jordan's monthly expenses.
4. Look at your Fixed Needs total and your Variable Wants total. What do these two numbers tell you about where Jordan has the least and most flexibility in her budget?

Be prepared to share your answers with the whole group.

Needs and Wants Matrix

Fixed Needs		Fixed Wants	
Total Monthly Cost		Total Monthly Cost	
Grand Total of Expenses			
Variable Needs		Variable Wants	
Total Monthly Cost		Total Monthly Cost	