Internet Activity

Lifestyle Budget Calculator

Real=Life Arkansas

[www.real-life.arkansas.gov](http://www.real-life.arkansas.gov)

After High school you will need to work to pay for housing, transportation, clothes…

* You will need money.
* You will need an occupation.

This assignment will help you determine an estimated budget for a chosen occupation. If you know what occupations you want, the next step is to find out if that occupation will pay you enough to cover all your monthly expenses.

You will need to log on to [www.real-life.arkansas.gov](http://www.real-life.arkansas.gov) and click on enter **site**.

Real-Life Arkansas provides three budget options.

**Option 1 – Get a Real Life Check** will guide you through a budget based on wants and needs and help you find an occupation that matches the annual salary needed.

**Option 2 – Future Salary** will guide you through choosing an occupation based on how much money you would like to earn and your education goals.

**Option 3 – Occupation Direct** – This will show you how much you can buy with your chosen occupation.

* **Choose Options 3.** After determining a budget for your lifestyle, save your completed budget and answer the questions below on a separate sheet.

1. Did you have to adjust your budget to meet your monthly income? Which expenses did you have to compromise or adjust?
2. Compare your budget with other classmates. Which expenses totals are similar and which ones are different?
3. If possible, find a classmate with a monthly income higher than yours, and one with a lower monthly income. How do your budgets compare?
4. As a class, we will discuss what you have learned about creating a monthly budget and what you will keep in mind when you choose your occupation.

After completing this assignment, please complete the user survey. You can find the link at the bottom of the home page.