

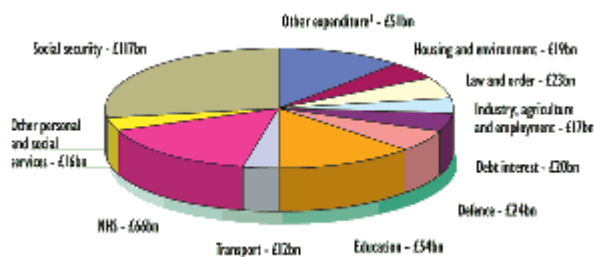
Government Spending – Warm Up

Curriculum links and notes

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|--------------------|---|
| N1 / L1.1 | Count, write, read, order and compare numbers up to 1000 |
| N1 / L1.2 | Read, write, order and compare numbers, including large numbers |
| N1 / L2.1 | Read, write, order and compare positive and negative numbers of any size |
| HD1 / E1.1 | Extract simple information from lists |
| HD1 / E2.1 | Extract information from lists, tables, simple diagrams and block graphs |
| HD1 / E3.1 | Extract numerical information from lists, tables, diagrams and simple charts |
| HD1 / L1.1 | Extract and interpret information (e.g. in tables, diagrams, charts, line graphs) |
| HD1 / L2.1 | Extract discrete & continuous data from tables, diagrams, charts, line graphs |
| MSS1 / L1.1 | Add, subtract, multiply and divide sums of money and record |

- Can be adjusted for any level – but for entry level 1 and 2 the government charts and numbers would probably have to be simplified.
- This is good for around budget time but would also work as an activity before doing the Payslip Activity (**Skills for Life – Explore Numeracy – Making Ends Meet, Entry 3 Unit 2**).
- This is an activity which I found generated a lot of discussion and helps increase confidence in manipulating and discussing large numbers.

Materials needed



Pre-budget Report – a summary of government spending and tax collection.

This is available at <http://prebudget.treasury.gov.uk>

And go to page 8, 'Where Taxpayers' Money is Spent', where there are two pie charts showing government spending and tax collection.

This is how it went

- Discuss government spending (I chose health and asked them to estimate how much each tax payer contributes to the health budget – £3,200 including VAT, national insurance, income tax and excise duties – they collect £61.3bn, enough to spend about £1 000 each on us)
- Students then name other things the government funds – make list on board
- They write down the list two times, cut it up and then arrange one of them how they would allocate the money if they were the Chancellor of the Exchequer.
- Give out the government figures and they use them to arrange their second list according to government priorities
- Discuss
- Can then look at how the money is raised (second pie chart on the page)
- Can also look at projected increase in government spending

It is also interesting to look at council spending – people in Oxfordshire can get very user friendly leaflets about council spending by phoning 01865 815266 or visiting www.oxfordshire.gov.uk.

This resource was kindly contributed by Sarah.Richards@abingdon-witney.ac.uk