



First Mobile Phone

Objectives

1. To promote budgeting and tracking of spending
2. To develop an understanding of the full costs associated with cellphones in various situations

Subject Area

English Language Arts (K-12), Math (4, 7-8), Social Studies (7)



Discussion

Introduce money management as it pertains to cellphones with the following discussion points:

- What are the pros/cons to having a mobile phone?
- What are the costs associated with keeping a mobile phone?
- Why does signing a contract affect the price of a phone? Are \$0 phones really free?
- What does it mean to sign a contract? What promises are you making by signing one? What happens if you don't hold up your end of the bargain?
- Talk about some of the terminology associated with mobile phone plans (daytime minutes, mobile data, text messages, roaming fees, overage charges).
- Out of the students in the class, how many have ever exceeded their mobile phone bill? How much have they exceeded their plan by? How often? How did they resolve the problem?
- What are the different types of mobile phone plans?
- What features are most appealing/which ones are most used?



Activity

Call Waiting

Length: 1–2 hours

Materials: Instructions for Call Waiting, Plan Sheets (5 cards), Calling Cards (20 cards), calculator

- In this activity, teach and lead students through the *Call Waiting* game. Divide students into five groups and assign each group to a plan (this game can also be played individually, with one person per *Plan Sheet*). Read through each of the *Plan Cards* to ensure that everyone has an understanding of the specific features described on each plan. Students will then take turns drawing a *Calling Card* from the middle of the circle and (based on their specific plan) will record on their *Plan Sheet* how the call/text/browse etc. affected their bill.
- As this activity is based primarily on the *Call Waiting* game, please read the *Instructions for Call Waiting* on page 58 before starting.
- The game is complete once all of the *Calling Cards* have been picked up.

Extension

- Divide students into two groups and have them debate the pros and cons of a cellphone. Do the benefits outweigh the cost?
- After the game is over and if time allows, put all of the *Calling Cards* back into a pile. As a class/group, go through each card together and assign each *Calling Card* to the *Plan Card* (cellphone plan) with which it best fits (i.e. the plan which would record the lowest charge).

Collaborative Feedback

- Which plan would best suit your phone habits?
- What surprises did you come across with regards to extra charges?
- Ask students to compare the cost of landlines, online phones and cellphones.



Teacher Tips

- Bring in actual phone bills to compare.

Pre- and Post-Assessment of Lesson

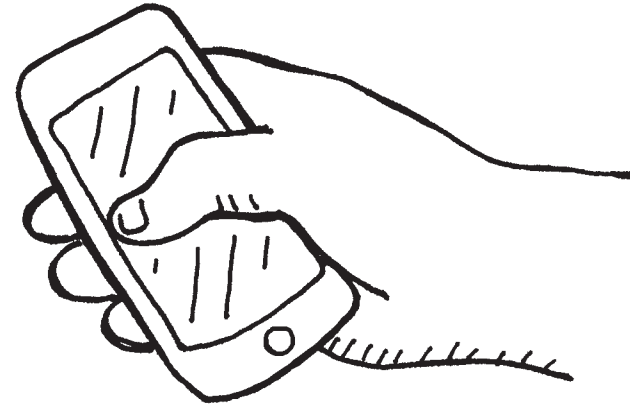
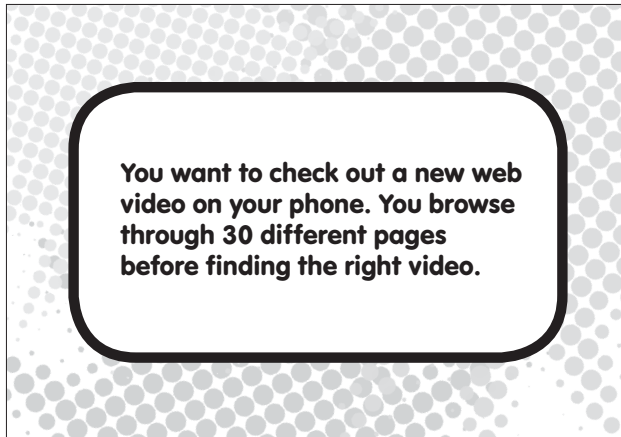
- How does choosing an appropriate mobile plan make a difference to your saving/spending?
- How did choosing an appropriate mobile plan make a difference to your saving/spending?

Call Waiting Instructions

1. On one side of the *Plan Card*, there is a chart on which you will record all of your cellphone charges. Have this side of the chart facing your group.
2. Place the *Calling Cards* face down in the middle of the circle. The starting team may then draw a *Calling Card*. This team should then record the relevant information on their *Plan Card* in the chart provided.

Check out these examples.

The Distance Assistance group pulls out this *Calling Card*:



Distance Assistance Plan

\$30 per month

Includes

- 200 anytime/anywhere minutes in Canada
- No long distance charges for calls made within Canada or from Canada to the U.S.

Extra Charges

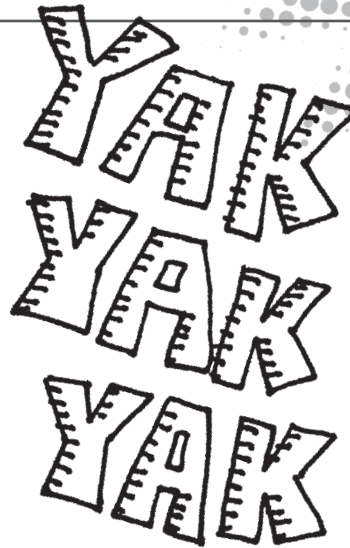
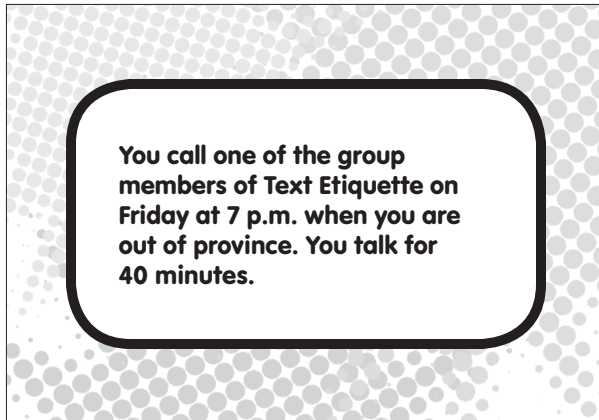
- Daytime minutes – \$0.50 per minute
- Long distance minutes – \$0.60 per minute
- Browsing – \$0.25 per page
- Downloads – \$1 per download
- Texting – \$0.20 per sent/received text

| Minutes Left | Call | Text | Download | Browse | Description | Rate | Charge |
|--------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|------|--------|
| 200 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | surfing 30 web pages | .25 | \$7.50 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | \$ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | \$ |



Call Waiting Instructions

The Day and Night Delight group pulls this *Calling Card*:



day & night delight plan

\$30 per month

Includes

- 250 daytime local minutes
- Unlimited local evenings and weekends starting at 5 p.m.

Extra Charges

- Daytime minutes – \$0.50 per minute
- Long distance minutes – \$0.60 per minute
- Browsing – \$0.25 per page
- Downloads – \$1 per download
- Texting – \$0.20 per sent/received text

| Minutes Left | Call | Text | Download | Browse | Description | Rate | Charge |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|------|--------|
| 250 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | long distance 40 min. | .60 | \$ 24 |

The Text Etiquette group will also need to track this call:

Text Etiquette Plan

\$30 per month

Includes

- 200 daytime local minutes
- Unlimited text messaging
- Unlimited local evenings and weekends starting at 8 p.m.

Extra Charges

- Daytime minutes – \$0.50 per minute
- Long distance minutes – \$0.60 per minute
- Browsing – \$0.25 per page
- Downloads – \$1 per download

| Minutes Left | Call | Text | Download | Browse | Description | Rate | Charge |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|------|--------|
| 160 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | long distance 40 min. | .60 | \$ 24 |

3. Continue by drawing cards and recording charges until the *Calling Cards* are finished or the allotted time for the activity is over.
4. Following the activity, each team must calculate all of the charges on their bill. The group with the lowest phone bill wins.



Distance Assistance Plan \$30 per month

Includes

- 200 anytime/anywhere minutes in Canada
- No long distance charges for calls made within Canada or from Canada to the U.S.

Extra Charges

- Daytime minutes – \$0.50 per minute
- Long distance minutes – \$0.60 per minute
- Browsing – \$0.25 per page
- Downloads – \$1 per download
- Texting – \$0.20 per sent/received text

| Minutes Left | Call | Text | Download | Browse | Description | Rate | Charge |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|------|----------|
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | \$ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | \$ |
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| | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | \$ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | \$ |
| Plan Charge + Activation Charge | | | | | | | \$ 37.95 |
| GST/PST | | | | | | | \$ |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | \$ |

Text Etiquette



Text Etiquette Plan \$30 per month

Includes

- 200 daytime local minutes
- Unlimited text messaging
- Unlimited local evenings and weekends starting at 8 p.m.

Extra Charges

- Daytime minutes – \$0.50 per minute
- Long distance minutes – \$0.60 per minute
- Browsing – \$0.25 per page
- Downloads – \$1 per download

| Minutes Left | Call | Text | Download | Browse | Description | Rate | Charge |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|------|----------|
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | \$ |
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| | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | \$ |
| Plan Charge + Activation Charge | | | | | | | \$ 37.95 |
| GST/PST | | | | | | | \$ |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | \$ |

day & night delight plan



day & night delight plan \$30 per month

Includes

- 250 daytime local minutes
- Unlimited local evenings and weekends starting at 5 p.m.

Extra Charges

- Daytime minutes – \$0.50 per minute
- Long distance minutes – \$0.60 per minute
- Browsing – \$0.25 per page
- Downloads – \$1 per download
- Texting – \$0.20 per sent/received text

| Minutes Left | Call | Text | Download | Browse | Description | Rate | Charge |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|------|----------|
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | \$ |
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| | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | \$ |
| Plan Charge + Activation Charge | | | | | | | \$ 37.95 |
| GST/PST | | | | | | | \$ |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | \$ |

Premade Prepaid



Premade Prepaid Plan

Charges

- Daytime minutes – \$0.50 per minute
- Long distance minutes – \$0.60 per minute
- Browsing – \$0.25 per page
- Downloads – \$1 per download
- Texting – \$0.20 per sent/received text

| Minutes Left | Call | Text | Download | Browse | Description | Rate | Charge |
|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|------|---------|
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | \$ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | \$ |
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| | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | \$ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | \$ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | \$ |
| Activation Charge | | | | | | | \$ 7.95 |
| GST/PST | | | | | | | \$ |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | \$ |

Super Talk



Super Talk Plan \$30 per month

Includes

- 200 daytime local minutes
- Unlimited data

Extra Charges

- Daytime minutes – \$0.50 per minute
- Long distance minutes – \$0.60 per minute
- Texting – \$0.20 per sent/received text

| Minutes Left | Call | Text | Download | Browse | Description | Rate | Charge |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|------|----------|
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | \$ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | \$ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | \$ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | \$ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | \$ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | \$ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | \$ |
| Plan Charge + Activation Charge | | | | | | | \$ 37.95 |
| GST/PST | | | | | | | \$ |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | \$ |

calling
scard

Make it Count

calling
scard

Make it Count

calling
scard

Make it Count

calling
scard

Make it Count

**You send a text to Day & Night
Delight and they reply right
away. You send another and
they send one back. Altogether
you send 10 messages and
receive 10 in return.**

**You vote for your favourite
singer on TV. You vote for him
via text message. It costs \$1 to
vote by text.**

**You send 10 text messages to
Premade Prepaid, but they don't
send you any back! Ouch...**

**You can't resist taking a funny
picture of your dog wearing
your glasses. You send it to Text
Etiquette. Text Etiquette sends you
three LOL texts.**
*Sending a picture costs the same as a text message.

calling
scard

Make it Count

calling
scard

Make it Count

calling
scard

Make it Count

calling
scard

Make it Count

You send 20 text messages at lunchtime to Distance Assistance. Distance Assistance only sends you 10 text messages before they have to go back to class.

You send eight text messages to Super Talk and receive two text messages in return. What's up with that?

It is 6 p.m. Monday night. There's nothing to do but homework, so you call Text Etiquette and chat for 80 minutes.

SNOW DAY! You have a Friday off from school. Distance Assistance calls you at 1 p.m. and you talk for 30 minutes.

calling
scard

Make it Count

calling
scard

Make it Count

calling
scard

Make it Count

calling
scard

Make it Count

It's your night for the dishes, but you put it off and call Day & Night Delight at 5:30 p.m. You talk for 45 minutes (until your mom starts waving the dish rag at you).

You call Premade Prepaid, just 'cause, at 9 p.m. Thursday evening. You manage to talk about absolutely nothing for 20 minutes.

You have to call Super Talk at 7 p.m. Wednesday night to find out the address for a friend's birthday party. It takes them 10 minutes to give you directions.

Saturday you receive a call from your grandma asking if you have seen her glasses. You manage to change the subject for the entire 30-minute call.

calling
scard

Make it Count

calling
scard

Make it Count

calling
scard

Make it Count

calling
scard

Make it Count

Your favourite video game just went mobile! You're dying to play it and it only costs \$5 so you download it onto your phone.

You need to check an email from a buddy but dang, where is it? You have to browse through 10 pages before finding it!

Your fave band has a new video online! You need to check it out on your cell. You browse through 15 different pages before you can find it.

You're visiting your grandparents from another province. They don't have cable. They don't even have a VCRI! You are bored out of your face, so you call Prepaid Prepaid on Saturday at 12 p.m. and talk for 30 minutes.

calling
scard

Make it Count

calling
scard

Make it Count

calling
scard

Make it Count

calling
scard

Make it Count

Distance Assistance is on the other side of the country for a hockey tournament. Wednesday night at 6 p.m., they call and complain for 20 minutes about how they lost.

You just pulled off a first at the science fair finals, and the best part is they took place halfway across the country. You call Text Etiquette on Friday at 7 p.m. and explain about the index of refraction for 20 minutes.

It's Friday and you and your family travelled to your cabin for the weekend! You call Day & Night Delight at 6 p.m. for 25 minutes to tell them about the squirrel you caught eating garbage.

It's Sunday at 1 p.m. and you're waiting at the departure gate at an airport for a flight back home. There is nothing to do – you finished your book and you have visited all the shops twice already. You call Super Talk and talk to them for 25 minutes until it's time to board the plane.