

What is a citizens' budget?

Scenario for primary school education lesson

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Class objectives:

- To provide young people with knowledge about the basic mechanisms for strengthening civic participation in Warsaw with particular emphasis on the civic budget.
- To arouse interest in undertaking grassroots activities for the benefit of your area and your peers.
- To build a belief among young people that even underage residents can co-create the city by implementing their ideas.

Materials: computer, overhead projector, flipchart/pack paper; markers; A4 sheets; paint tape

Stages of the lesson:

1. Introductory phase - presenting the idea of the project and the essence of the civil budget

Welcome the students. Tell the pupils that „We adults - teachers, management and city authorities - invite you to implement a project aimed at increasing the self-government of young people by taking advantage of the opportunities offered by the mechanisms of the civil budget and local initiative.”

Then, using the information contained on the website of your town (e. g.

<http://twojbudzet.um.warszawa.pl>) explain to students what a citizen's budget is.

2. Implementation phase - what should the projects from the civil budget be allocated to

Divide the whole group into 4-5 groups (depending on the class size). You can propose this division into groups: ask students to line up in complete silence, from the youngest to the oldest, without verbal communication. You can set the boundaries where the youngest pupil stands, and where the oldest pupil stands. Make sure the students don't talk to each other. Then, depending on the number of students, divide the row of students into groups.

Ask students to sit in their groups and then imagine that they will submit the project to the citizens' budget.

Ask students to create a list of project ideas for the citizens' budget, which will respond to the needs and problems of young people in the neighborhood.

Stage I - The first task of the students will be to reflect on and answer the questions - what are the needs and problems of the young people in the neighborhood/city? What are they missing, what do they need?

Ask students to answer this question in groups and then present the results of the group work in the classroom.

Stage II - Then ask students in the same groups to create a catalogue/list of project ideas for the citizen's budget that respond to their previously diagnosed problems and needs.

After the students have finished their group work, ask them to present the effects of their group work, i. e. They talked about their ideas for youth projects for the civil budget. If possible in time, allow students to discuss after each presentation. Thank the students for working together.

1. The concluding phase - presentation of a timetable for the implementation of the civil budget

Finally, present the students with a timetable for the implementation of the civil budget in your town. You can use the materials contained on the website of your town (e. g. <https://twojbudzet.um.warszawa.pl/o-budzecie>)