

The Bean Game

Managing money means making choices. There is never enough money available for all the things we'd like to have or do. This game will help girls decide what is most important to them!

This game is designed to be played individually or in a group of 2-5. Each individual/group receives 20 beans (if you're doing this virtually, girls can use something that they have 20 of in their home, for example m&ms, pennies, jelly beans, etc.) and a set of spending category sheets. Please choose the sheets that are most in line with the age of your girls. The individual/group must decide how to spend their "income" based on life circumstances, values and goals. Each item has a set number of squares which indicate how many beans are needed to "pay" for that item.

Round #1

First, each individual/group must select one item in each of the categories with stars. Once you have finished selecting items in the required categories, continue selecting items until you have used up your 20-bean income.

Discussion questions:

- Why did you choose the items you did?
- In what ways were you influenced by the values of each item?
- In what ways were you influenced by your previous experience?
- Compare what you spent your beans on with other individuals/groups
- How would you change your choices if you did this again?
- What did you learn about yourself and money in this process?

Round #2

Your income has been cut to 13 beans. What will you give up/ What changes will you make? Make changes until you only have 13 beans on your sheet.

Discussion questions:

- What kind of items did you choose to give up and why?
- What did you learn about yourself and money in this process?
- Compare your budget-cutting choices with another individual/group

** You know your girls best! This activity can be customized to work for any age. You can also add any additional categories as you see fit or based on your girls' interests.

