

Inflation and the Family Budget

Five page evaluation copy for ages 11 through 16

This sample includes

The original unit cover

The parent overview

One parent teaching page

One student activity page

Use it before you buy

Download and print this sample for evaluation in one household.

The complete paid unit includes five lessons, answers, a final project, and a rubric.

Public posting, resale, and distribution of the sample are not included.

Find the complete unit at losttofound.org

Questions and support support@custodyfolio.com

Inflation and the Family Budget

A five day unit on price levels, inflation rates, baskets, purchasing power, and household choices.

Ages 11 through 16

Includes parent notes, student activities, extension work, answer guidance, a final project, a progress checklist, and a grading rubric.

FORMAT	TIME	LICENSE
Printable PDF	Five lessons of 35 to 50 minutes	One household

Every number in the activities is fictional practice data unless an official source is explicitly identified.

Edition 1 August 2026
Questions and support support@custodyfolio.com

What this unit teaches

A five day unit on price levels, inflation rates, baskets, purchasing power, and household choices.

Learning goals

- Distinguish a price level from the inflation rate.
- Calculate change in one price and in a fixed basket.
- Explain why personal experience can differ from a broad price index.
- Compare nominal income with purchasing power.
- Write a family budget briefing using fictional evidence.

Two learning levels

CORE AGES 11 THROUGH 13	EXTENSION AGES 14 THROUGH 16
Complete the core calculations and explain each result in a full sentence.	Complete core work plus extension pages, compare assumptions, and state limits in the evidence.

Privacy

Every household and number in the activities is fictional. No child should disclose private household income, debt, employment, benefits, or purchasing information.

Price level and inflation rate

Core idea

A slower inflation rate means prices are rising more slowly. It does not mean the earlier price increase disappeared.

Teaching sequence

- Read the scenario aloud and ask for a prediction.
- Identify the numerator, denominator, unit, or comparison period before calculating.
- Complete one row together and let the student finish the remaining work.
- Ask what the result means and what the exercise omits.

Answer guidance

Expected reasoning

Year 3 has the highest level. Year 2 has the faster rate. Prices did not return to the Year 1 level because the index remains above 100.

Listen for

- Correct arithmetic with units and labeled periods.
- A claim that stays within the fictional evidence.
- At least one stated limit, uncertainty, or tradeoff.

Price level and inflation rate

A fictional price index equals 100 in Year 1, 106 in Year 2, and 109 in Year 3.

YEAR	INDEX	CHANGE FROM PRIOR YEAR
1	100	Not available
2	106	6.0 percent
3	109	2.8 percent rounded

1. Which year has the highest price level?

2. Which year has the faster inflation rate?

3. Did prices return to the Year 1 level? Explain.

4. Write one sentence that separates level from rate.