

A note about financial information –

We've had a discussion today about the private nature of financial information in our society. This is why we send all financial information home to be totaled outside of school. We think it is a valuable math lesson and a great opportunity to talk about finances with your child.

It is very important that the "total" value of your child's Village finances be something that he or she keeps to himself and, more importantly, keeps in perspective. Developmentally, fourth and fifth graders have a very difficult time not focusing solely on a number and not on all of the other experiences in the game.

Further, our volunteer appraisers do a great job – but they do not have extensive training and, consequently, do not all value things in the same way. In a previous year, one house was valued at 3,000 by one appraiser and 20,000 by another. While we correct for some of these issues by making adjustments when we see that one appraiser was consistently high or low, it is a very, very imperfect measure of your child's work. We use averages to help correct for this but it is further reason why comparing results is not appropriate.

Please help your child keep the financial aspect of the game in perspective by having them reflect (perhaps in their Blue Books) on all the elements of the game from design, to the woodshop, to government, to businesses, to family, to university.

Thank you,
Amber, Ryan and Michelle

Final Village Financial Portfolio Worksheet

Appraisals:

Find your average appraisal:

Total of all appraisals = _____

Number of appraisals = _____

Total divided by number of appraisals = _____
(this is your average appraisal)

Average Appraisal = _____

Business Appraisal (if done separately) = + _____

Subtract total bank loan(s) = - _____

Subtract 5% interest owed bank (loan x .05) = - _____

Add bank account balance (unless your balance is negative, in that case, subtract) = + _____

Add cash (bills you have) = + _____

Final Portfolio Value = _____

