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Student Activity

Finding Money to Start a Business

Name: ____ Date: ______________

Business Idea: ____

Part 1: What do you need money for?

1. **What business idea are you planning?**

2. **What do you need before you can start?**

List the supplies, tools, materials, space, permits, technology, or help you might need.

Item Needed	Why You Need It	Estimated Cost
1.		$
2.		$
3.		$
4.		$
5.		$

3. Total estimated startup cost

My estimated startup cost is: $________________________

4. What can you reduce, borrow, reuse, or do without?

Part 2: Research Funding Options

Use at least **two trusted sources** from the approved source list.

Source 1

Source name: ____

What did you learn?

Source 2

Source name: ____

What did you learn?

Source 3

Source name: ____

What did you learn?

Part 3: Compare Funding Options

Choose three possible ways to fund your business.

Examples:

- Savings
- Preorders
- Early sales
- Pitch contest
- School club support
- Community fundraiser
- Crowdfunding with adult support
- Grant
- Microloan
- Family or friend support
- Partnership
- Reinvesting profit

Funding Option	How It Works	Amount You Might Raise	Pros	Risks or Challenges
1.		$		
2.		$		
3.		$		

Part 4: Fairness in Funding

1. Why might getting startup money be easier for some entrepreneurs than others?

Think about savings, family wealth, credit history, trust from lenders, networks, discrimination, or access to information.

2. What is one issue of fairness in business lending?

3. What is one alternative to a traditional business loan?

4. How could this alternative help someone who has trouble getting a loan?

Part 5: My Funding Strategy

1. My first-choice funding option is:

2. I chose this option because:

3. My backup funding option is:

4. I would avoid or be careful with this funding option because...

5. One thing I can do this week to reduce my startup cost is:

6. One person, organization, or resource I could ask for guidance is:

Part 6: Action Plan

Complete each step.

Step	What I Will Do	By When?	Who Can Help?
1. Confirm my startup costs			
2. Research one funding option more deeply			
3. Reduce or remove one cost			
4. Ask for feedback on my funding plan			
5. Decide my first small launch step			

Part 7: Reflection

1. The most realistic way to fund my business is:

2. This option fits my business because:

3. One fairness issue I should remember is:

4. Before launching, I still need to learn: