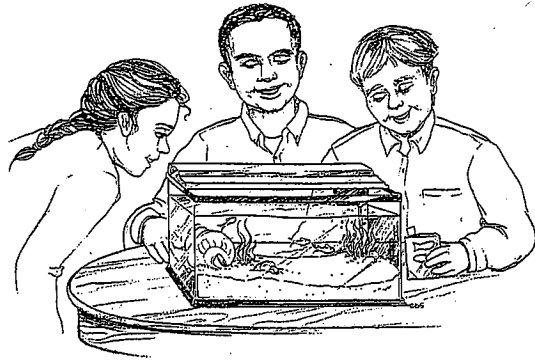


Buying a Class Aquarium

Produce a Poster, or
Slide show.



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Situation/Problem

\$500

An anonymous donor has given your class ~~\$200~~ \$500 to buy and set up a freshwater aquarium for the classroom. Since there are many different sizes of tanks and accessories, the class has been divided into groups. Each group will research aquariums and make a proposal for the size of tank, accessories, and fish to buy. You should select the biggest tank and most accessories you can but may not go over your budget.

Possible Strategies

1. Round off prices to do quick estimates of costs.
2. Select the tank, hood, light, and filter first. These will be some of your biggest costs.

Special Considerations

- Remember that fish need room to grow and thrive. Most aquarium supply shops suggest that you follow the rule of 1 inch for 1 gallon, that is, for every 1 gallon of water in your tank, you may have a fish 1 inch long. If you have a 10-gallon tank, for example, you may keep ten 1-inch fish or five 2-inch fish.
- While much equipment and supplies for aquariums are necessary, some are mostly decorative:
 - Stones are colorful and provide a nice bottom but are not required.
 - Water plants offer realism, allow fish hiding places, and add oxygen to water (supplementing the job of the air pump) but are not required.
 - Snails and catfish help clean the aquarium but are not required.
- Use Data Sheet 7.2 for a list of items you may need and their prices.
- To reduce the chances that you will run over your budget, keep a running tally of the items you are considering.
- Pay close attention to costs. Some prices are given for tanks of a specific size.