

6 A lesson about the school participatory budget

Objectives:

-  **Inform students** what a school participatory budget is.
-  **Provide information** about the implementation of the school participatory budget.
-  **Encourage young people** to get involved in the preparation of projects for the school participatory budget.

Remarks:

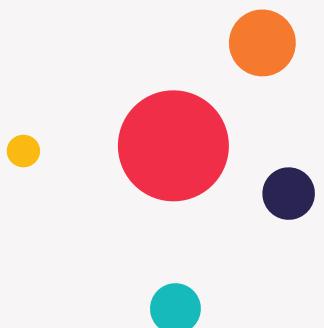
-  The lessons can be held by teachers or tutors, or take the form of peer lessons, led, for example, after initial instruction, by members of the school coordinating team.

Techniques:

-  Mini lecture
-  Film presentation and talk
-  Creative group work

Duration:

-  2 x 45 minutes



**Duration:****3 min****Description**

Greetings.
Presentation of the objectives of the lesson.

14 min**Description**

Talk to your students about their experiences with participatory budgeting.

You can ask students the following questions:

- Who has heard of civic/participatory/school budgeting? What does it involve?
- Who knows someone who has submitted a proposal for a participatory budget? Maybe one of you?
- Do you know any projects that have been carried out in your town or school using the participatory budget?

In conclusion, give students a definition of the school participatory budget and tell them that it is now beginning in your school.

Details

If you are conducting an online lesson, you could conduct this exercise using, for example, the **PADLET application ↗**, where students can mark their answers under the questions they have written down with a 'thumb' icon.

If your municipality has a civic budget, tell students about projects that have been carried out using this funding. Some local authorities have civic budget websites with maps and detailed descriptions of such projects.

See, for example, Warsaw: <https://bo.um.warszawa.pl/taskArchive/index?regional=1> ↗

Definition:

A **participatory school budget** is a process in which the school community decides on the use of a portion of the school budget. Students, as well as parents, teachers or other school staff, come up with ideas, create projects and then choose the best ones by voting or through deliberation.

3 min**Description**

Conduct a quiz among the students on “Where and when was the participatory budget established?”

Details

You can use the **MENTIMETER app ↗** to collect students' answers.

Correct answer:

1990s – Brazil, Porto Alegre

You can read more about the history of participatory budgeting

in: W. Kęblowski, ‘Budżet partycipacyjny. Krótka instrukcja obsługi’, Instytut Obywatelski 2010, https://instytutobywatelski.pl/pliki/pdf/budzet_partycypacyjny.pdf ↗ (in Polish) or on the Participedia website (in multiple other languages).

10 min

Description

Details

Inform students that participatory school budgets are implemented in many countries around the world. Tell them about some selected processes.

Descriptions of best practices can be found in the form of a map at: <https://youthpb.eu/map/> ↗. Show this page to students.

5 min

Description

Details

Film presentation – School Participatory Budgets.

Present students with a short film about the school participatory budgets implemented in 2020 in eight schools in Podlaskie Voivodeship (Poland).

Present the video animation about the values in PB processes.

Link to film in Polish (with English subtitles): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vzn5AZwW-E8> ↗

Link to the video animation: <https://youthpb.eu/resource/video/> ↗

10 min

Description

Details

Discuss with students what they have learned from the film.

Supporting questions:

- What are participatory school budgets?
- Why is it useful to organise such a budget at school?
- What stages does a SPB consist of?

You can find all this information in our [toolkit](#) ↗.

break



5 min	Description	Details
	<p>Provide students with basic information about the SPB process in their school.</p>	<p>Tell them, among other things, about the funds available, the rules for submitting projects, who can submit them and how voting will work.</p>
	<p>Explain where the SPB regulations are to be found.</p>	
30 min	Description	
	<p>Invite students to an exercise that allows them to experience in practice how SPB works.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute 1–2 pieces of paper to each student and ask them to write down their individual ideas on what could be done in the school with the given amount of money provided in the SPB. • On the board draw a school (e.g the shape of a building). Students can place their ideas on it, while giving reasons why their idea should be implemented. • Then analyse whether ideas are repeated and select a few that are most likely to be submitted. • Next, divide the students into small teams. Their task is to prepare posters with the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project illustration (drawing, graphic) • Name of the project • Reasons why the project is needed • Approximate cost • While the teams are working, assign voting numbers to the projects. Put the numbers and names of the projects in e.g. Mentimeter app (https://www.mentimeter.com/) <p>Optionally, a ballot can be prepared using cards with the project numbers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teams present their work, and then voting for the best project takes place in the app or directly (e.g sticky dots, or voting slips.) An easy way to vote can be with tokens or coins placed into jars or boxes. 	
3 min	Description	
	<p>Ask what students like about this way of making decisions. What opportunities and risks arising from the SPB process do they envisage in their school?</p>	
7 min	Description	
	<p>Finally, present the schedule for the participatory school budget in your school. Thank everyone for their involvement and invite them to participate in the next steps of the school budget.</p>	