

VCAL Numeracy - Foundation - Outcome 3 - Money and Time

Natural v Processed Foods Activity

On your supermarket trip, take a look at the price labels for the food items. Not that there is a price per item but there is also a price per unit of measure, e.g. an item may be \$7.62 per item but the same item may also be \$3.05 per L.

LAUNDRY DETERGENT 2.5 L \$7.62 \$3.05 per 1 L Unit price	LAUNDRY DETERGENT 1.5 L \$5.74 \$3.83 per 1 L Unit price
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To find out the real cost of the item you need to look at the price per unit to see which item is better value.

TASK

- 1) Choose 10 items that you think are natural and unprocessed e.g. fruit, eggs, milk, meat etc and write the name of the item, whether it is Natural or Processed, and the price per unit in the table below.
- 2) Then choose 10 items that are highly processed and packaged e.g. bacon, cup-a-soup, pies, pizza, soft drink, and write the price per unit in the table below.
- 3) When you have all these items listed convert the prices into the same units so that they can be compared directly e.g. price per 100g into a price per kg or price per 100ml into a price per L. Only those in the smaller units need to be converted.

Food item	N / P	Price per unit \$	Convert units \$/unit
spices	N	5.99 / 100g	59.90 / kg
Average Natural foods	\$ /kg	Average Processed foods	\$ / kg

4) Calculate the average cost of the natural foods and the average cost of the processed foods. Write your answer in the space provided in the table.

5) What have you noticed about the prices of the natural and processed foods? _____

