

## Teaching accounting outside the classroom

Written by Emanuel Mizzi, University of Malta

This approach can be an innovative and engaging way to bring accounting concepts to life for students, enhancing their learning experience and providing them with practical, real-world skills. The following are some ideas to teach accounting outside the classroom:

- 1 Conduct a **treasure hunt** in the yard by hiding objects that may represent different accounting concepts. Divide the students into teams and give them a list of clues to find each object. This activity can help young people become more familiar with accounting terminology and concepts.
- 2 Use the **natural environment** in the yard to teach accounting concepts. For example, leaves can be used to represent transactions in a ledger or stones to represent assets and liabilities. This activity assists the students to visualize accounting concepts in a concrete way.
- 3 Create a **budgeting game** that allows students to simulate the process of managing their own finances. Stations can be set up in the yard that represent different expenses such as housing, transportation and entertainment; students can be provided with a budget to allocate among the different stations. This activity sets young people thinking about the importance of budgeting and financial planning.
- 4 Establish a **mock business** in the yard and students work in teams to manage its finances. Students can handle tasks such as tracking expenses, creating financial statements and managing cash flow. This activity assists students to gain practical experience with accounting concepts.
- 5 Employ **case studies and simulations** to simulate real-world accounting scenarios. This will help students understand how accounting concepts apply in practice and enhance their problem-solving skills.
- 6 Encourage students to **volunteer** with nonprofit organisations or social entrepreneurship in their community. This provides them with the



opportunity to apply their accounting skills in a real-world setting.

- 7 Assist the students to pursue **internships or apprenticeships** at accounting firms or in finance departments of businesses. This will provide them with hands-on experience and exposure to the day-to-day tasks of an accountant.
- 8 Use **online resources** that can help students learn accounting outside the classroom, such as interactive videos, webinars and online courses.
- 9 Encourage students to join **professional organizations** that offer networking opportunities, career resources and educational events that can help them stay up-to-date with industry trends and develop their skills.

By drawing upon the teacher's pedagogical content knowledge (Shulman, 1986a, 1986b, 1987), the teaching and learning of accounting outside the classroom can be orchestrated in a fun and engaging manner that assists young people to understand better accounting concepts. It can be an innovative way to supplement classroom learning, providing students with valuable experience and skills.

### References

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