

Objective

By the end of this lesson, Jordan will have a comprehensive understanding of cash registers, including how to operate one, the importance of accuracy in transactions, and basic financial literacy. This unit study will integrate skills from various subjects, enhancing both practical life skills and critical thinking abilities.

Materials and Prep

- Paper and pen for note-taking
- Calculator for practice transactions
- Mock cash register setup (can be simulated using a shoebox, play money, and a notebook)
- Access to online resources or books about cash registers and financial literacy
- ASL resources (videos or guides) for learning relevant signs

Activities

1. Cash Register Simulation:

Jordan will set up a mock cash register using a shoebox, play money, and a notebook. He will practice ringing up items, calculating totals, and giving change using a calculator. This hands-on activity will help him understand the mechanics of a cash register.

2. Reading and Research:

Jordan will read a short article or watch a video about the history of cash registers and their evolution. Afterward, he will summarize the key points and discuss them with you. This will develop his reading comprehension and critical thinking skills.

3. ASL Vocabulary:

Jordan will learn and practice American Sign Language (ASL) signs for common cash register terms such as "money," "change," "total," and "receipt." This will enhance his communication skills and introduce him to a new language.

4. Life Skills Discussion:

Engage in a discussion about the importance of financial literacy, budgeting, and responsible spending. Jordan can create a simple budget for a hypothetical event (like a birthday party) to apply what he learns about managing money.

5. Critical Thinking Challenge:

Present Jordan with different scenarios involving cash register transactions (e.g., a customer gives too much money, or an item is incorrectly priced). Have him discuss and resolve these situations, encouraging logical reasoning and common sense.

Talking Points

- "A cash register is not just a machine; it's a tool that helps businesses keep track of sales and manage money."
- "Accuracy is crucial when handling money. Even a small mistake can lead to big problems."
- "Learning ASL can help you communicate with people who are deaf or hard of hearing, making your skills more versatile."

- "Understanding how to budget can help you save money for things you really want or need."
- "What would you do if a customer gave you too much money? It's important to think critically in these situations!"
- "Cash registers have evolved over time. Can you think of any modern technology that has changed how we handle transactions?"