Name
Al Budget Builder
So, your class wants to throw the ultimate school dance - lights, snacks, music, decorations, the works. But here's the catch: you're in charge of the budget, and the money isn't endless. In this activity, you'll plan your event, do the math yourself, and then use Microsoft Copilot to double-check your calculations and see how Al handles real-world money problems. Your goal? Keep the party awesome <i>and</i> under budget.
You'll be using both math and reasoning here: adding totals, working with decimals, calculating percentages, and comparing costs - all while learning how to use Copilot as your math assistant (not your accountant).
Step 1: Your Event Budget - You have \$200 to spend on your dance. Here's the price list for some essentials:
Pizza: \$12 per box, Drinks: \$1.50 each, Decorations: \$25 total, DJ: \$80
Tickets: \$5 each (students will buy these to help you earn money back!)
Other snacks: \$10 per bag
Write down your plan below - what you'll buy and how much of each item you'll need.
What I'm buying:
My estimated costs:
Now, calculate your total spending by hand. Remember to multiply where needed and add all your costs together.
My total cost:
Step 2: Ask Copilot to Check Your Math
Now go to Microsoft Copilot and type something like this:
"I'm planning a school dance. Here's my budget and item list (paste your list here). Can you calculate my total cost and show your work?"
Compare Copilot's total to yours. Was it the same? If not, where did you differ?
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Name
Ask Copilot to help you calculate how much of your \$200 budget you've used and what percentage that is. Example prompt:
"If my total cost is \$ out of a \$200 budget, what percentage have I spent?"
Write down Copilot's response here:
If you have money left over, how much do you have to spare?
If you went over budget, how much do you need to cut, and from where?
Step 3: Average and Profit Check - If you plan to sell tickets for \$5 each, how many tickets do you need to sell to break even (cover all your costs)?
Ask Copilot to confirm your answer by typing:
"If my total cost is \$ and each ticket is \$5, how many tickets do I need to sell to break even?"
Copilot's answer:
If you sold 10 more tickets than your break-even point, how much profit would you make?
Step 4: Reflection How accurate was Copilot when checking your math?
What did you learn about balancing fun ideas with financial limits?
How could you use Copilot (IRL) when budgeting for events or saving money?

