

# Kids Ride the Bus

## Who Pays for Public Transit in BC?

### Overview

This learning activity helps students to understand the concepts of funding local services by taxpayers, purchasing the service and how purchasing fares in bulk can affect personal budgets. Here they will learn that the bus is a safe place with professional drivers and radios to call police and ambulance. We all own the buses as the service is paid for through taxes and fares.

### BIG IDEAS

#### 🌀 Social Studies 3

Recognize the causes and consequences of events, decisions, or developments

#### 🌀 Mathematics 3

Financial literacy fluency with coins and bills to 100 dollars, and earning and payment

### Activities

Students could participate individually or in teams.

- 🌀 Research online or view the Rider's Guide back cover to learn about the different types of fares. Students will identify how much each of their family members would pay to ride the local bus.
- 🌀 Students will identify how many days of the month they would ride transit and what it would cost per trip and per month using cash fares or a monthly pass. Create a chart of the savings and identify what they would use the savings for (a field trip, toys, lunch).
- 🌀 Students will create a transit system for their friends. How much would it cost them to operate their bus including driver's wages, cost of purchasing the bus, fuel and cleaning. How much would they charge to ride the bus?

### Resources

Local fares and vendors: visit [www.bctransit.com](http://www.bctransit.com) and click your community for information on fares and vendors where products can be purchased. Your local Rider's Guide will list fares and vendors.

**Funding and Governance:** <https://bctransit.com/victoria/about/facts/regional>

**Schedules:** Rider's Guides are available at your local municipal hall or download at [www.bctransit.com](http://www.bctransit.com) under Schedules and Maps

**BC Transit history:** <https://bctransit.com/victoria/about/history>

**BC Transit Advantage:** Summary of BC Transit's shared services model.  
<https://bctransit.com/servlet/documents/1403642161857>