The Cinema Voucher

Topic: Algebra
Using a contextualised problem students are introduced to algebraic and word equations.

Year Group: 1st Year
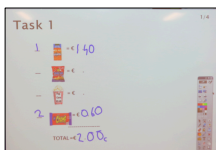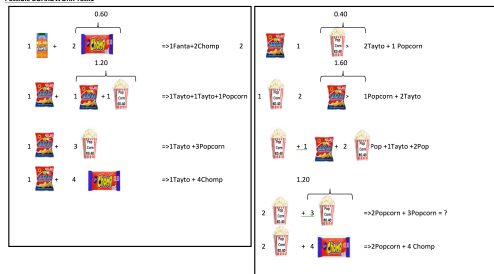**Level: Mixed Ability**

Presenting the Problem

You have won €10 cinema voucher. The cost of entry to the cinema is €8, the balance of the voucher may be spent in the cinema shop.
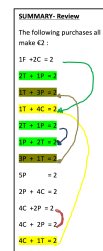
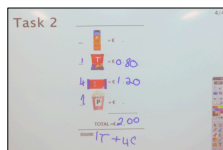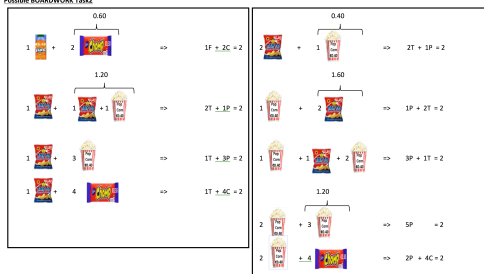Write down as many possible ways you could spend the full voucher.

Fanta	€1.40
Tayto	€0.80
Popcorn	€0.40
Chomp	€0.30

The Board Plan

Possible BOARDWORK Task1

Possible BOARDWORK Task2

| Prior Knowledge & Posing the Tasks 8 minutes | → | Students working on the problems 14 minutes | → | Presentation of Solutions & Ceardaíocht 15 minutes | → | Summing up & Reflection 3 minutes |

Reflecting on the Learning

Students achieved the lesson goals and by the end of the lesson they had moved from forming word and picture equations into algebraic expressions and equations. They naturally could add like terms. Students were comfortable using letters to stand for the "cost of" an item. They reasoned that it would be better to write "C2" as "2C" which they understood to mean "the cost of two chomp bars". Students showed could intuitively substitute values into algebraic expressions. The desire of the class to be correct stood out most. Students worked well and enjoyed the attention of their peers when presenting or explaining their thinking. As the lesson progressed into the second task students became more comfortable engaging in their individual work as they ploughed through various solutions. Students were greatly satisfied with their achievements.

Developed by Attracta Glavey and Jerome Chambers, with thanks to Brendan Doheny and the pupils of Moyne College, Co. Mayo.

To download this lesson plan visit www.projectmaths.ie/mc2017

Maths Counts 2017
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