

*KEY PACED Grid

Name: _____

Use this grid to help you make a reasoned decision for the problem.

Based on a PACED Grid from Economics Arkansas (2015) <https://www.economicsarkansas.org/>

Problem: What is one way we can make urban agriculture (growing food in cities) more productive?				
Criteria: What is important?				
Alternatives Choices ↓	Good quality fresh fruits & vegetables	Affordable price to buy fresh fruits & vegetables	Good for the environment	TOTAL of the +
Change laws about where gardens could be located in cities	-	+	+	2
Offer land in cities at lower prices to become gardens	-	+	-	1
Provide more places in cities to compost for rich soil	+	+	+	3
Increase access to fresh water in cities for growing plants	+	-	+ or -	1 or 2

Evaluation: consider each alternative according to each criterion

WRITE a + if the choice helps meet the criteria or a - if the choice does not help meet the criteria

Decision: Which alternative best meets the criteria?

ADD the number of + into the TOTAL column.

We decided the best way to make urban agriculture more productive is to:

Provide more places in cities to compost for rich soil

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Name:

Name:

Hour:

Date:

TEACHER GUIDE: Rationale for Weighing the Alternatives with the Criteria

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Criteria: What is important?			
Alternatives Choices ↓	Good quality fresh fruits & vegetables	Affordable price to buy fresh fruits & vegetables	Good for the environment
Change laws about where gardens could be located in cities	Changing laws about land use (zoning) does not ensure better quality	Opening up new spaces for farming can lower prices (less transportation from the field to the store or market)	Opening up new spaces for farming can be better for the environment (less pollution from transportation)
Offer land in cities at lower prices to become gardens	Lowering the price of land does not ensure better quality	Lower land prices can lower the prices of fresh produce (farmers pay less for the land and can charge less for fresh vegetables and fruits)	Lowering the price of land does not ensure a better environment
Provide more places in cities to compost for rich soil	More places to compost can create more rich soil to grow better quality fresh vegetables and fruits	More places to compost can create more rich soil naturally instead of farmers purchasing chemical fertilizers so they can charge less for fresh vegetables and fruits	More places to compost in cities is better for the environment as food waste can be decomposed naturally and compost is a natural fertilizer
Increase access to fresh water in cities for growing plants	Increasing access to fresh water can grow better quality fresh vegetables and fruits	Increasing access to fresh water could be expensive (invest in new pipes and hoses) which would affect the price of fresh vegetables and fruits	Increasing access to fresh water can be either good (more access to fresh water in cities could grow more food in cities so less pollution from transportation) OR bad (more fresh water for plants could mean less drinking water for other uses including people, particularly those people with a low income)
<i>*Ask students to consider alternatives to fresh water such as collecting rainwater.</i>			