



How to get money for your projects

Do you need any money?

Many activities require very little funding and still make a significant contribution to changing people's behaviour through presentations at assembly, negotiations with the school community, managing daily environmental routines.

Evaluate your options

- How much money do you need?
- How much effort will it be?
- Do you have enough volunteers?
- How much money up-front?
- Are there strings attached?
- Will the amount of profit be fixed or uncertain?
- Can you coordinate your fundraising with other objectives (i.e. awareness raising)?

Applying for grants

Only apply for grants if the grant fits with your plans and if you need the money for something you're doing right now. Sometimes it's a mistake to spend your time chasing funds. If you don't meet the selection criteria don't bother applying. If you're not sure, contact the funding body directly.

What you need to consider before applying:

- An objective is to (do this) by (deadline) at a cost of no more than (amount).
- Timeline; activity, date, who, how much, mini goal. Allow time for delays.
- Budget; remember little things add up. You may need to get three quotes.
- There could be strings attached; i.e. reporting back to the funding body, article on their webpage, logo on a sign by the project.
- Be clear, professional and snazzy.
- Pitching to ask people individually or to ask for in kind support.
- In kind support; people donating goods or services that usually cost for free i.e. raffle prizes, office space, printing. Think of in kind support first when budgeting.
- Vision for your project; share with people what you are trying to achieve succinctly and let them know what they could be a part of achieving.
- Goals; how much, what for, by when?

Some fundraising ideas

- Radical cake stall
- Craft stalls
- Grants
- Shave for a cure
- Former members
- Membership
- Badges
- Exhibitions
- Quiz nights
- Raffles

Get really creative

- Norton Summit make and sell local produce, and have bus tours visiting to buy their produce.
- Mt Torrens use the eggs from their chickens to make pancakes and hold a “pancake day”. This has been popular and becomes a regular event. All money raised goes towards buying more chook food and other school projects.
- Paracombe PS sell their veggie garden produce. They have even made tomato sauce and used it to make lasagna which students can buy for lunch.
- North Haven have held at the Port Adelaide Markets.
- Stradbroke PS sell the juice from thier worms.
- Gawler High School have delivered bin reminder fridge magnets for NAWMA in a few suburbs to raise money for their group.
- Brighton Secondary School created magic square envelopes. Each envelope has 20 squares on the front and each square cost \$1 to buy. Once all squares are sold, the envelope is opened to reveal the winning number inside. Every envelope wins a small prize e.g. block of chocolate.
- Warradale Primary school have given a “blue bag” (reusable bag) to every family and neighbouring residents to donate their 10 cent deposit containers to the school.

10 cent deposit

Many schools are now collecting 10 cent deposit containers and using the money collected for school projects.

Casual Day, “Green Day”, Dress-ups

Many schools have one day a term where you can come to school in casual clothes for a gold coin donation. Some schools have held a “Green-day” where every student dresses in the color green to promote the environment.

Sports Day

Buy some cans of hairspray in the colours of your teams and offer to spray dots or stripes in hair at \$1. (Check if coloured hairspray is okay at your school with the Principal first).

Council grants

Some local Councils offer community grants. Check your Council website for Council Community Grants. Each one has different criteria and amounts you can apply for but often you can get equipment for your projects such as worm farms, tools etc.

Basket raffle

Every class picks a theme for their basket — something like sports, chocolate, or summer fun. Items for the basket are donated, and \$1.00 raffle tickets are sold for each basket. Your school can raise thousands!

Flower and plant sell off

You have all heard of school bake offs – well this is a little easier and a great event to hold before Mother’s Day! Contact a local nursery that will sell you potted and hanging plants at a discount. Send order forms home with the students, and have people pick up their orders at the school.

Entertainment coupon books

These books provide coupons and discounts on restaurants, stores, and entertainment. You can order local books and advertise to the local community – For every book sold, the school receives approximately \$10-12.

Chocolate drives

Use the power of the sweet tooth to raise money quickly and easily! Some chocolate fundraisers provide 100 percent profit, since items will cost you cents and you can sell them for a dollars.

Engraved bricks

Sell engraved bricks or ceramic tiles that will be used in a school walkway or courtyard, or to decorate a wall.

Cow pat or duck poo bingo

If you're up for something very unusual, this is the fundraiser for you! You will need a large field chalked out with a grid, tickets corresponding to the grid numbers, and a cow or if your area is smaller maybe a sheep or even a duck. People purchase the square they think the animal will poo in first. Your prize could be a small gift or donated gift.

Get specialised help....

There are companies that specialise in helping you fundraise but be aware minimum orders often apply and the company will also want a cut of the money. Fundraisers may involve:

- reusable sandwich wraps or lunch bags
- artwork, stationery and labels
- glowsticks and flashing novelties
- wristbands and much more!

Visit www.fundraisingdirectory.com.au for more details.

Thankyous: Write personal thankyou notes for those who support your fundraising cause. Fundraising is about relationships and people.

Remember: Don't get so caught up in the fundraising that you lose sight of the project - try to make sure that your fundraising complements your project and doesn't create a whole lot of extra work. Keep it simple!