

 **BUILDING BLOCKS STUDENT WORKSHEET**

# Choosing the best saddle for you

Imagine that you've just landed a great job working on a cattle ranch and need a new work saddle.

The job provides you with \$1,400 to buy your own equipment, including a work saddle. You want to figure out which brand offers the best deals on the features you need and want for a work saddle. Practicing comparison shopping can help you to make an informed buying decision.

## Instructions

- 1 Record work saddle features that are most important to you.
- 2 Research work saddles from two recognized brands that meet your requirements (be sure to compare similar work saddles) and record your findings in the "Comparison shopping tool" handout.
- 3 Analyze the information and choose the best work saddle for your needs and budget.
- 4 Answer the reflection questions.



# 1. Features you want in a work saddle

Record the work saddle features that are most important to you. (Do you want a saddle made from quality leather? Are size and weight important? Is there a specific stirrup or type of cushioning you prefer?)

Work saddle features

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# 2. Research and record your findings

Research and compare two work saddles. Be sure to compare each work saddle using the features you brainstormed above. Use the "Comparison shopping tool" handout to record your findings.

Which two work saddles are you comparing?

# 3. Determine the best work saddle for you

Use the "Comparison shopping tool" handout to decide which work saddle is best for you based on your needs, wants, and budget. Which work saddle did you decide on? How much will it cost?

## Reflection questions

1. Was your final choice different from what you thought it might be before comparison shopping? Why do you think it was different?

2. How does comparison shopping help you make more informed buying choices?

3. How could you use comparison shopping in your own life?