

Taster session

About the session:

One of the benefits of being online is being able to use the internet to manage your money. You can save money through a number of websites which offer money off vouchers for certain products and services, and compare prices of utilities and insurance between competing providers.

Audience

This session is aimed at those unfamiliar with computers and is designed to inspire people to get online. The example session plan encourages people to sign up to further **Be Connected** sessions and courses, but this taster session might be of interest to more experienced learners too.



Things to try

Price comparisons Ask your learners about something they buy regularly and show them how they can find it cheaper online by using price comparison websites. There are many comparison sites available but try a well-known one such as: www.comparethemarket.com.au

Bargains and vouchers The web can provide big savings and are full of voucher codes to get money off restaurant bills and online shopping. Show the learners sites like www.groupon.com.au or www.topbargains.com.au

Holiday deals Using a website such as www.skyscanner.com.au allows you to compare the costs of flights and packages across different travel companies, as well as car hire, travel insurance and other holiday essentials.

Shopping Quiz

Why not show your learners the website of their regular supermarket? You could put together a shopping list, and pair learners up in teams to see who can find and call out the price of each item first.

Internet Banking

Banking online can be pretty scary for people new to the internet, but most of the big banks have quick video demos or how-to guides to reassure people that it's just as safe as going in to your local branch, and a lot more convenient. Why not show a new learner to help put their mind at rest?



- **HSBC** - Internet banking demo www.hsbc.com.au/1/2/online-demo/basics/log-in
- **St George Bank** - Internet banking online learning <http://promos.stgeorge.com.au/internet-banking-demo/>

What to consider

Before the session starts, make your learners feel at ease by reminding them that these are practice activities and that they don't need to enter their bank account details at any point. Some learners may feel uncomfortable discussing money and finances within a new group of people, so be mindful of this.

For learners who are completely new to computers and the internet, some of the websites listed above may be difficult to navigate. Make sure that you're on hand to support learners during the session, or you could pair learners together with different confidence and ability levels.

Information

Some people attending the session may want to go further and explore some of the courses at your centre, be sure to have information about the sessions you offer and the availability before you start.

Delivering a session

Here is an example on how to run your session using a shopping quiz as a suggested activity. The session plan is designed to be flexible, so feel free to adapt examples to your learners needs. This example session runs for 30 minutes.

Activity	Timing
Introduce yourself, and explain what you'll be asking the learners to do during the session.	5 minutes
Demonstrate how to use a grocery shopping site to the whole group. Go through the steps of finding an item and putting it into the shopping basket.	5 minutes
Now ask the group to try out shopping for themselves by finding a list of items in the online store. You could ask them to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Find one or two specific items• Create a shopping list for a birthday party and find all the items on it• Choose a favourite recipe and find the items to make it. Make sure you are on hand to help learners if they get stuck.	10 minutes

Activity	Timing
<p>Get learners to think about areas they would need more support for if they wanted to do the activity again on their own.</p> <p>Take time at the end of the session to explain the Be Connected sessions that you offer, including the topics that are relevant to what they have just learned. Here are a few that may be of interest to the learners but you can also use other examples if they are suitable.</p>	10 mins



Next steps with **Be Connected**...

Online shopping overview This course covers similar topics to this taster session, and could help learners to recap what they've learned.

Paying safely online It's important for learners to understand how to safely pay for goods and services online. This course teaches learners about various methods for paying safely to see which one might work best for them.

