

BUSINESS OWNERSHIP CARD GAME



Grade level & Curriculum Connections:

- Suitable for Grades 9-12
- Accounting Essentials, Grade 11, (BAI3E) Workplace Preparation
- Entrepreneurship: The Venture, (BDI3C) Grade 11, College Preparation
- Entrepreneurship: The Enterprising Person, (BDP3O) Grade 11, Open
- Entrepreneurship: Venture Planning in an Electronic Age, (BDV4C) Grade 12, College Preparation
- Marketing: Goods, Services, Events, (BMI3C) Grade 11, College Preparation
- Marketing: Retail and Service, (BMX3E) Grade 11, Workplace Preparation
- Business Leadership: Becoming a Manager, (BOG4E) Grade 12, Workplace Preparation
- Launching and Leading a Business, Grade 10, Open (BEP2O)
- Building the Entrepreneurial Mindset, Grade 9, Open (BEM1O)

Materials

A1: [Printable Cards with Reference Notes](#) (Copy-friendly version of Google Document)

Teacher Note: You will need to pre-print and cut up the sets of the cards for students to use during this activity. Each group of students will need one set of cards. You may wish to print “Business Type” cards on a different color of paper to differentiate them from the “Business Ownership Scenario” cards.

Alternative- A1(i): Students may complete the matching activity as a [Google Form Quiz](#).

Learning Goals & Timing

- **Understand the different types of business ownership** - Understand various business models, such as sole proprietorships, partnerships, corporations, co-operatives, not-for-profits and their characteristics.
- **Apply knowledge to real-world scenarios** - Demonstrate their ability to apply theoretical concepts to practical situations.
- **Enhance communication skills** - Students should be able to effectively communicate their understanding of business ownership concepts and their application to different scenarios.
- **Develop critical thinking skills** - Students should be able to justify their choice of business ownership for specific scenarios based on evidence and reasoning.

This activity should take approximately 30 minutes.

01

Lesson Introduction & Instructions

Introduce the activity and review tasks.

Sample teacher script:

- (Optional) We will start with a brief review of the business types we will be exploring in this activity; Sole Proprietorship, Partnership, Shareholder Corporation, Not-for-Profit Corporation and Co-operative.
- You will be given a group of cards, half of the cards will have names of business types, and the other half of the cards will have business ownership scenarios. You will work in small groups to match each business type with its corresponding scenario.
- We will review results as a class, and discuss any discrepancies, so be prepared to justify your selections.
- By the end of this activity, you should be able to analyze different business scenarios, identify the unique needs and goals of each scenario, and select the most appropriate type of business ownership to maximize success and meet the needs of the business owners.

02

Part 1

Take a few minutes to review various business types in Canada with the class; Sole Proprietorship, Partnership, Corporation, Not-for-profit and Co-operative. (5-10 minutes)

(Bonus) Here's a link to a plain-language, easy to understand [slide deck \(PDF version\)](#) that explains what a co-operative business is. (15 minutes)

03

Part 2

Divide students into smaller groups of 3-4 people. Give each group one full set of cards (A1). You may wish to share the *Quick Reference: Types of Business* document with them as well (A1). Students will analyze each business ownership scenario and match each scenario with the appropriate business type. (10 minutes)

Alternative- Students may complete the matching activity A1(i) independently, as a Google Form Quiz. (15 minutes)

03

Part 3

(Optional) Once the students have had a chance to match the cards (or complete the quiz), it's time to encourage share back. This is a chance for students to share the results of their individual assessment or group discussions. Invite students to reflect on the characteristics and suitability of each business type (Answer key included below). This activity can help reinforce the concepts introduced in the activity and encourage students to think critically about the different types of business ownership and how they reflect the needs of business owners. (20 minutes)

Quick Reference: Business Types Teacher's Guide

Quick reference: Types of Businesses

Sole Proprietorship: This business is owned and operated by a single individual who makes all the decisions and receives all the profits.

Consumer Co-operative: This business is owned and governed by its customers, who are also its primary users.

Not-for-Profit Corporation: This business is organized and operated for the benefit of the public or specific community, with profits going towards its mission.

Worker Co-operative: This business is owned and governed by its employees, who share in the profits and decision-making.

Partnership: This business is owned by two or more individuals who share profits, losses, and decision-making responsibilities.

Shareholder Corporation: This business is owned by shareholders who have purchased shares and have limited liability.

Answer Key: A1

Sole Proprietorship: "Devi's Sweets"

"A sole proprietorship is a good match for Devi's business because it allows her to have full control over her bakery. As the sole owner, Devi can make all the decisions without having to consult with partners or shareholders. This means she can choose the best ingredients, set prices that work for her business, and keep all the profits for herself. This level of control and independence is ideal for a small, owner-operated business like Devi's Sweets."

Consumer Co-operative: "GameLovers Shop"

"A consumer co-operative is a good match for this business scenario because it allows you and your friends to create a store that truly reflects the needs and desires of the community. By giving your customers a say in how the business is run, you can ensure that the games you sell are ones that people actually want to buy. This sense of ownership and involvement can also help build a strong sense of community among your customers, making them more likely to shop at your store and support your business."

Not-for-Profit Corporation: "Green Earth Foundation"

"A not-for-profit corporation is a good match for this business scenario because their primary goal is to make a positive impact on the world rather than generate profits for shareholders. By operating as a not-for-profit, the Green Earth Foundation can focus all of its resources on organizing community events, planting trees, and educating the public about sustainability. This allows them to make a meaningful difference in the world while also being transparent about how they use their funds, which can help attract donors and volunteers who share their passion for environmental conservation."

Worker Co-operative: "Eco-friendly Cleaning"

"A worker co-operative is a good match for this business scenario because it allows the cleaners to have a direct say in how the business is run and to share in the profits they help generate. By working together as owners, the cleaners can decide on the best eco-friendly cleaning practices, ensuring that their work aligns with their values. This also means that everyone benefits from their hard work, creating a sense of fairness and equality among the workers. Additionally, the limited liability of a worker co-operative ensures that no one will lose more than they've invested in the business, providing a sense of security for all involved."



Answer Key: A1 Cont'd

Partnership: “Trendy Threads Boutique”

"A partnership is a good match for this business scenario because it allows them to combine their skills, resources, and passion for fashion. As partners, they both have a stake in the business and share in the profits based on their investment and agreed-upon terms. This arrangement allows them to make decisions together, ensuring that their boutique reflects their shared vision and values. However, it's important to note that in a partnership, their personal assets may be at risk if the business fails, so they must trust each other and work together to make the business successful."

Shareholder Corporation: “TechGenius Inc.”

"A shareholder corporation is a good match for this business scenario because it allows individuals like you to invest in a company you believe in and share in its success. By purchasing shares, you become a part-owner of the company and have the opportunity to profit if the business does well and the value of the shares you own increases. Additionally, as a shareholder, you may have a say in important decisions through your voting power, which is based on the number of shares you own. If you own enough equity, this can give you a voice in shaping the future of the company, such as electing board members or deciding on mergers."

Teacher Support

Thank you for choosing the *Business Ownership Card Game*, we hope you had a positive experience!

For lesson delivery support email mchristmann@ontario.coop

To provide feedback, please fill out this 5 minute survey: [Teacher Survey](#)

For more lesson plans and activities, visit cooperativeminds.ca

