**Nicaragua: Poverty and Solutions**

***Creating a More Just and Colorful World***

**Your Budget**  
Calculate how much you spend in a day. Consider daily expenses such as food and transportation, regardless of who pays for it—yourself or your parents. Also estimate other expenses, such as clothing and recreation.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Expenses** | **Amount** |
| Food | $ |
| Transportation (Gas) | $ |
| Entertainment | $ |
|  | $ |
|  | $ |
|  | $ |
| **Total Amount Spent In A Day: $** | |

**Question:** If you had only $2 per day to spend, how would you spend it? If you had only $1 per day to spend, how would you spend it?

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**Minimum Wage in Texas**  
How much is the minimum wage in Texas? $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/ hour

If a person works 40 hours a week for 4 weeks, how much does he/she make that month? $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Minimum Wage in Nicaragua**Below is the minimum wage for various jobs in Nicaragua. The amount is written in Córdobas, Nicaragua’s currency. Convert the Córdoba’s to Dollars. 1 Nicaraguan Córdoba = .04 US Dollar

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Profession** | **Monthly Wage in Cordobas** | **Monthly Wage in Dollars** |
| Farmer | 2,004 |  |
| Manufacturing Industry | 2,746 |  |
| Tourism Industry (restaurant, hotel, commerce) | 3,747 |  |
| Arts, Crafts | 2,349 |  |

Statistics from: http://fincaelcoqui.com/current-minimum-wage-for-2011-in-nicaragua/

**Question:** What are differences in pay between occupations in Nicaragua? How does the minimum wage in Nicaragua compare to that in US?

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**Pulsera** means \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in English.

Amount a **Pulsera Artisan** makes per month $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/month

**Question:** Compare the average salary of the different professions in Nicaragua to what a pulsera artisan makes. Does a Pulsera artisan make more or less?

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**Película: Color the World** Contesta las siguientes preguntas

1. How did La Pulsera Project start?   
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2. Where was the Pulsera Project’s help really needed?

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1. Mercedes Altimirano said there are different kinds of jobs, but what is the issue?

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1. What are Zonas Francas?

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1. What are the problems working at Zonas Francas?

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1. Why are these Zonas Francas able to get so many employees?

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1. What alternative has the Pulsera Project given Mercedes and other artisans that make pulseras for the Pulsera Project?

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1. According to Juan Carlos Mayorga, what is one the most important things for people to have in Nicaragua?

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* 1. Why is it important in breaking the cycle of poverty? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. How might these peoples’ lives be different if they didn’t work for the Pulsera Project?

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