



MATH

POST-LESSON PLAN

Salary Cap Challenge Worksheet

Name: _____

Date: _____

Class/Grade: _____

Step 1: The Set-up

The Rams, like every NFL team, must follow the budget established by the salary cap, which is a budget of about \$250 million dollars for all players on the roster. Now it's your turn to step into the role of salary cap manager! You must build an offensive starting lineup, which consists of 11 players.

Remember: Paying more = top-tier talent. Paying less = contributors (which could mean less reliable players).

Step 2: Know Your Options

Each position has three "tiers" you can choose from:

- **Superstar:** Top performer with a higher salary.
- **Starter:** Dependable player with a moderate salary.
- **Contributor:** Role player with a lower salary.

Use the information below to guide your decisions:

Quarterback (QB)

- **Superstar:** (\$55M): Top 5 QB in the NFL
- **Starter:** (\$40M): Solid starter
- **Contributor:** (\$15M): Backup QB

Running Back (RB)

- **Superstar** (\$20M): Superstar RB who can change games.
- **Starter** (\$15M): Reliable starter.
- **Contributor** (\$5M): Role Player.

Wide Receiver (WR1, WR2 & WR3)

- **Superstar** (\$35M): Star WR with big play potential.
- **Starter** (\$20M): Dependable starter.
- **Contributor** (\$10M): 3rd option receiver.

Tight End (TE)

- **Superstar** (\$20M): Top TE, strong blocker and pass-catcher.
- **Starter** (\$10M): Reliable starter.
- **Contributor** (\$5M): Part-time role.

Left Tackle (LT)

- **Superstar** (\$30M): Elite protector, anchors the O-line.
- **Starter** (\$20M): Reliable starter, steady protection.
- **Contributor** (\$5M): Contributor, risk of QB pressure/sacks.

Right Tackle (RT)

- **Superstar** (\$30M): High-level pass blocker, key role.
- **Starter** (\$20M): Solid starter, dependable.
- **Contributor** (\$5M): Could provide inconsistent protection.

Left Guard (LG)

- **Superstar** (\$25M): Strong starter, reliable in run/pass game.
- **Starter** (\$15M): Consistent.
- **Contributor** (\$5M): Possibly offers weaker protection.

Right Guard (RG)

- **Superstar** (\$20M): Key interior lineman, strong performance.
- **Starter** (\$15M): Dependable starter.
- **Contributor** (\$5M): Risk of allowing pressure.

Center (C)

- **Superstar** (\$15M): Elite communicator, protects QB, leads O-line.
- **Starter** (\$10M): Reliable starter, solid contributor.
- **Contributor** (\$5M): Backup, less reliable in key situations.

Step 3: Choose your Team

DESIGN A TABLE WITH THE FOLLOWING ROWS AND COLUMNS

Position	Tier Chosen	Cost
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QB		
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RB		
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WR1		
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WR2		
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WR3		
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TE		
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LT		
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RT		
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LG		
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RG

C

Total roster cost:

Remember: You cannot go over \$250 million!

Step 4: Reflection Questions

Reflect on why you made the decisions you did, and which tradeoffs you made. Answer in complete sentences:

1. Which position did you spend the most money on, and why?
2. Which position did you spend the least money on, and why?
3. What tradeoffs did you have to make to stay under the cap?
4. How does this challenge show that math is a decision-making tool, not just numbers on a page?