



BANKERS

IN THE CLASSROOM

RESOURCE GUIDE FOR BANKERS

WORKING WITH K-12 STUDENTS

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF KANSAS CITY

OUR INVESTMENT

Consumers who are better educated on how the economy functions and the financial tools available to them make better decisions - which benefits the economy in the long run.

As the nation's central bank, the Federal Reserve believes economic and financial education is a critical component in helping us effectively conduct our responsibilities. Consumers who are better educated on how the economy functions and the financial tools available to them make better decisions - which benefits the economy in the long run.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City is committed to promoting economic and financial literacy and greater knowledge of the Federal Reserve's role by providing free resources for teachers, students and the public to better understand important economic concepts and issues.

To foster financial and economic literacy, our Bank takes advantage of the Federal Reserve's regional structure to meet unique needs in each of our seven states. We believe in equipping educators, bankers and the public with resources and tools to better understand the importance of economic and personal finance education.

YOUR INVESTMENT

Possible opportunities to interact in schools:

Teach Children to Save

Money Smart and financial literacy awareness campaigns

Get Smart About Credit Day

Engage bank employees at neighborhood schools

Career awareness days

Bank in the school

Local Jump\$tart Coalition

Are you visiting a classroom or expecting students to tour your bank? Take advantage of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City's free resources to help teach students about money, banking and financial literacy. As bankers, you have the opportunity to reach out to the community and give children and young adults the tools and inspiration for a successful financial future.

The following resources are available from the Federal Reserve to assist bankers in delivering personal finance concepts to K-12 students. These suggested resources engage the students in role plays, games, online interactives, books and lessons to give a better understanding of everyday financial activities and knowledge about the banking industry. Unless otherwise noted, these resources and many others can be found at: www.kansascityfed.org/education.



SUGGESTED RESOURCES for ELEMENTARY STUDENTS



Kindergarten, ages 5 to 6
First Grade, ages 6 to 7
Second Grade, ages 7 to 8
Third Grade, ages 8 to 9
Fourth Grade, ages 9 to 10

FIFTY NIFTY ECON CARDS are a set of economic and personal finance vocabulary cards accompanied by a teacher resource guide that suggests activities and games for use with the cards. *(For Gr. K-6)*

FINANCIAL FABLES are online stories that combine reading, economics and personal finance into life lessons that contain “money morals.” Lesson plans and family activities enrich each fable. *(For Gr. K-4)*

“**BUNNY MONEY**,” is a children’s literature lesson that introduces students to short-term and long term savings goals through a goal-sorting activity. *(For Gr. K-2)*

“**THOSE SHOES**” is a literature lesson that helps students learn about tastes and preferences related to the goods and services they purchase. Students survey classmates on their own shoe choices and graph the results to share. *(For Gr. 2-4)*

“**THERE’S NO BUSINESS LIKE BANK BUSINESS**” is a personal finance role play and lesson plan that introduces students to the benefits of saving money in a bank and how a bank operates as a business. *(For Gr. 3-5)*

“**SWEET POTATO PIE**” is a literature lesson that highlights resources needed for a business and key information entrepreneurs should consider before starting a business. Students learn about division of labor and identify risks and rewards entrepreneurs encounter. *(For Gr. 3-5)*

“**ISABEL’S CAR WASH**” is a literature lesson that introduces the roles of entrepreneur and investor in the context of starting a business. Students are divided into entrepreneur and investor groups for a business start-up simulation. *(For Gr. 4-6)*

Common Concepts:

barter, competition, consumers, Federal Reserve Bank, goods, incentives, labor, money, needs, producers, profit, prices, resources, saving, scarcity, services, wants, withdrawal

SUGGESTED RESOURCES

for MIDDLE SCHOOL

Fifth Grade, ages 10 to 11

Sixth Grade, ages 11 to 12

Seventh Grade, ages 12 to 13

Eighth Grade, ages 13 to 14



JAY STARTS A BUSINESS is an online, interactive educational app that takes students into the world of entrepreneurship and starting their own business. It includes a teacher's manual and lesson plans, a student journal, assessments and a completion certificate for students. *(For Gr. 4-6)*

ARE YOU READY TO TAKE THE RISK is a lesson that enables students to take a self-assessment survey of their entrepreneurial potential and to learn about Gallup's 10 talents of successful entrepreneurs and to apply this knowledge to solve a given business problem. *(For Gr. 7-12)*

"PAYMENT PARLIAMENT" is a role play and lesson plan that introduces the different methods of payment that consumers use to purchase goods and services. *(For Gr. 3-8)*

"TO PAY THE PRICE" is a personal finance role play and lesson plan that explores electronic banking in a quiz show format. *(For Gr. 6-8)*

"DOWNSIZE YOUR DEBT" is a lesson about problems associated with debt. It is accompanied by a powerpoint titled "The Dangerous Pet." Students learn about budgeting and plan ways to pay off a group debt. *(For Gr. 3-8)*

BANKING BASICS is a booklet that explains bank accounts, debit and credit cards, and the Federal Reserve's role in the banking system. *(www.bos.frb.org)*

"PLANNING, PRODUCING AND PUBLISHING: CREATING AN ECONOMICS CHILDREN'S BOOK" is a lesson that presents the project of producing a classroom book of personal finance tips. An example of a completed book, "It Makes Good Sense", can be viewed on the Kansas City Fed's education website. *(For Gr. 4-6)*

"TEACHING TIPS" articles with related questions can be used to discuss the topic of "Is Your Bank Safe?" Through the article, students learn what happens when a bank fails and how the FDIC steps in following a bank closing. *(For Gr. 7-12)*

Common Concepts:

assets, borrower, check, credit, debit, demand, economic systems, identity theft, income, investment, markets, online banking, profit, shortages, supply, surpluses, unemployment

SUGGESTED RESOURCES

for HIGH SCHOOL



Ninth Grade, ages 14 to 15
Tenth Grade, ages 15 to 16
Eleventh Grade, ages 16 to 17
Twelfth Grade, ages 17 to 18

CORE CONCEPT CARDS are online vocabulary cards with economic and personal finance words and their definitions. The Core Concepts website includes activities, games and assessments to use with the interactive flashcards.

“PROFESSOR FINANCE and FED BOY MEET THE CATASTROPHE CLAN” is a personal finance role play and lesson plan that gives an overview of credit and loan operations and consumers’ rights to credit through the CARD Act.

FOCUS ON FINANCIAL SERVICES is a lesson that includes a “Banking for Safety” online video and an introduction to financial institutions and services. Students are given guidelines on how to choose an institution based on their preferences.

TEACHING TIPS provide ways to integrate current issues and research from the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City into the classroom through extension activities and discussion questions.

A LOAN AT LAST is a role play lesson that introduces students to the loan process involved in buying a car as they learn about credit history, credit reports and the importance of being a credit-worthy consumer.

THE MONEY CIRCLE contains lessons on the functions and characteristics of money; saving and investing; using credit wisely; and the Federal Reserve’s role in the economy.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN THE CLASSROOM is a suite of resources tied to entrepreneurship that includes videos of real-life entrepreneurs, lesson plans and activities.

PUTTING YOUR PAYCHECK TO WORK uses fact sheets and activities to help explain how to manage your first paycheck effectively.

LIBERTY LOAN BONDS is an online presentation that shares the Federal Reserve’s role in helping the U.S. Treasury finance World War I. Students use a historical persona of someone who lived during the war and plan a budget with a goal of saving enough to purchase Liberty Loan Bonds to support the war.

Common Concepts:

credit, discount rate, economic indicators, entrepreneurs, fiscal policy, inflation, interest rates, money supply, monetary policy, open market operations, reserve requirements

TOP 10 TRICKS *for* A SUCCESSFUL PRESENTATION to STUDENTS

- 1. ORGANIZATION IS KEY.** If possible, contact the teacher before your presentation. Get a class count so you know how many copies of lesson materials to make. Let the teacher know of any other supplies that will be necessary (crayons, scissors, etc.) so time and class focus is not lost while looking for materials.
- 2. PRACTICE YOUR LESSON OR ACTIVITY.** Read through your lesson carefully noting the order of activities and handouts you will need. Make notes, underline or highlight the plan to remind you of the important points to emphasize. Teach your lesson to a co-worker or family member to get the feel and timing of the lesson down.
- 3. SPEAK WITH CONFIDENCE.** Introduce yourself and your organization with a smile and begin with enthusiasm. Students can smell fear or inexperience easily, so project confidence even if you don't feel it.
- 4. USE A "TEACHER VOICE."** Speak in a clear voice that can be heard in the back of the classroom. Add excitement to your voice in key parts of your lesson. A monotone voice will put kids to sleep.
- 5. START WITH A "HOOK."** Ask an exciting question, or give a thought-provoking statement at the beginning. Asking "Who wants to become a millionaire someday?" can entice students to listen to your lesson about savings and compound interest.
- 6. WATCH for NON-VERBAL FEEDBACK.** If students aren't paying attention during your lesson, stop the lesson and redirect them. ("I'd like your attention now please, Sam.") Don't ignore the behavior or it will escalate.
- 7. GIVE REAL-WORLD EXAMPLES.** If you're discussing the importance of saving, tell how you saved for two years to get your first bike (or some related story). Ask students to share examples about the topic that connect their life experiences. Make sure they stay on topic and don't take up too much discussion time.
- 8. USE AV AIDS TO ENHANCE YOUR LESSON.** Students need to look at visuals to reinforce their learning and keep focused. In addition to hand-outs, use charts, graphs or computer websites to add to their learning on the topic.
- 9. HAVE AN EXTRA ACTIVITY OR DISCUSSION QUESTION READY** in case your lesson goes more quickly than expected and you have time left with students. A question such as "In your opinion, what's the hardest part about saving money?" will do wonders in keeping kids focused. You could also discuss solutions to their problems.
- 10. ENJOY YOURSELF!** Don't take your presentation so seriously that you aren't having a good time with the students. Listen to their comments and enjoy their outlook on life.

CONTACTS

The Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City's website, www.kansascityfed.org/education, has a variety of lesson plans, resources and activities available for use. Find even more education resources from around the Federal Reserve System at www.FederalReserveEducation.org.

For local resource assistance:

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