

Tools and Resources to Educate Children and Teens about Money

Knowing how to effectively spend and save money and manage credit can help children and youth become successful adults. The links listed below are proven financial education tools.

Dollars During Development

Parent guides for over two dozen children's books with money-related themes. The guides feature suggested discussion questions and activities that caregivers can do with children as they read the themes and teach kids about money. For grades K4-3rd.

Small Savings Build Big Dreams

Small Savings Build Big Dreams is a campaign led by University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension county educators to promote the benefits of saving for college, answer common questions about saving for higher education, and provide information about how you can get started. For parents and grades 7-12.

Money Matters

UW-Madison Extension's popular online self-study course for adults also works well for providing high school students with reliable information on credit reports, spending plans, and insurance. For grades 9-12.

The CFPB's guide to financial literacy activities

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has put together a collection of activities that can help educators teach and nurture the building blocks of financial capability. Each activity comes with a teacher guide and supporting student material. For grades K4-12.

Next Gen Personal Finance

Teachers and community practitioners can access lessons for elementary, middle, and high school on checking, saving, types of credit, managing credit, paying for college, budgeting, investing, financial pitfalls, careers, taxes, and insurance. For grades K4-12.

NEFE High School Financial Planning Program

The National Endowment for Financial Education has created this comprehensive personal finance curriculum for use by high school teachers. The six modules cover the topics of money management, borrowing, earning power, investing, financial services, and insurance. For grades 9-12.

FDIC's Money Smart for Young People

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation has created versions of its popular Money Smart curriculum for grades pre-K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12. This curriculum is also available in Spanish.

Jump\$tart Clearinghouse

The Jump\$tart Coalition reviews all financial literacy resources before they are posted on this site in order to make sure that they meet their seven criteria for listing, including being accurate, up-to-date, unbiased, respectful, and non-discriminatory. For grades K4-12.

Night of the Living Debt

Idaho Extension and New Mexico State University created this interactive game that uses zombies to teach teens about debt, credit scores, and savings. The game can be downloaded for free and is available for iOS devices. Supporting materials include an instructor's guide and evaluation. For grades 8-12.

