



for Grades 3-5



Educator Guide



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WELCOME TO MONEY SMART

Welcome to **Money Smart**, an exciting interactive exploration of the concepts of money. This standards-aligned, cross-curricular program is designed to promote financial understanding in children ages 8 through 11. You can use **Money Smart** to add engaging and enriching activities to Math, English Language Arts, and Social Studies lessons while also helping your students build the foundation to become financially responsible adults.

In **Money Smart** you will find:

- **Eight Lessons** with hands-on, cross-curricular activities that engage third- through fifth-grade students in discussing and exploring key financial concepts
- **Teacher Presentation Slides**, which provide helpful visuals, as well as fill-in charts to support the activities in each lesson
- **A Student Guide** with handouts that let students explore the topics covered in each lesson and apply their new knowledge
- **A Parent/Caregiver Guide** with information about topics and terms being covered in class, conversation starters, online and literary sources, along with activities to try at home and around town

Developing positive financial habits equips students with 21st-century skills and tools that last a lifetime. We hope you and your students enjoy learning about money and its many uses.

We are eager to hear from you about how you use this curriculum. We would like to know what works well and what could be improved to make **Money Smart** even better. If you have any questions, we would like to help. Please contact us with your comments and questions via e-mail at communityaffairs@fdic.gov.

GETTING STARTED

Money Smart provides a comprehensive, developmentally appropriate program for upper elementary students to build an understanding of key financial concepts.

There are many features that help make the **Money Smart** curriculum engaging, motivating, and easy to use. Each lesson includes learning objectives, essential questions, supplies needed, and preparation required, as well as the following features and components to support easy integration of **Money Smart** activities into your instructional day.

STANDARDS

Each lesson promotes real-world connections through student-centered learning experiences and aligns to the following education standards and learning outcomes, including Common Core State Standards in mathematics and English Language Arts. The **Education Standards Chart** on pages 48-57 identifies which standards are met in each lesson.

- Financial Literacy JumpStart Standards
- English Language Arts Common Core State Standards
- Mathematics Common Core State Standards
- National Standards for Financial Literacy by the Council for Economic Education
- Partnership for 21st-Century Skills

GRADE-LEVEL MODIFICATIONS

Please note the modifications identified throughout lessons to differentiate learning experiences for beginner and advanced students. Modifications provide developmentally appropriate activity recommendations and extension opportunities.

PRESENTATION TIME

Each lesson plan includes an estimated time needed to teach the lesson. Actual time required will vary from classroom to classroom. The estimation includes instructional time spent on the **Warm Up**, **Guided Exploration**, and **Wrap Up**. Activities may also be taught as several short lessons over a period of days or weeks. **Extended Exploration** activities are included to extend financial literacy learning opportunities throughout the year and provide easy ways to integrate the topics into various content areas.

ASSESSMENTS

A variety of assessments are integrated throughout each of the eight lessons. Assessments are designed to build value, meaning, and context around a topic, while providing teachers with opportunities to evaluate prior student knowledge, and collect evidence of their new understandings of lesson concepts and skills. Pre- (formative) and post- (summative) assessments are noted on the first page of each lesson. Assessments include discussions, reflections, questions and answers, reading, writing, and problem-solving exercises. Student handouts are an especially useful form of written assessment.

LESSON STRUCTURE

Each lesson is designed to include the following:

- **Warm Up** introduces students to the topic and sparks inquiry.
- **Guided Exploration** integrates cross-curricular and developmentally appropriate learning activities and assessments while focusing on the key financial literacy learning objectives of the lesson.
- **Wrap Up** provides a reflection question or activity to review lesson concepts and allow students to demonstrate their understanding.
- **Money Smart Tips** are provided throughout lessons to offer additional guidance, interesting and relevant financial facts, and additional ideas to help make **Money Smart** a success in your classroom.
- **Extended Exploration** provides teachers with additional opportunities to extend financial literacy concepts throughout the school year within core and creative content areas including English Language Arts, Math. Activities can be completed as a class, in small groups, or by students individually. Useful resources (such as books, web links, games, or videos) are also included to promote even more student engagement. The books and online resources suggested in this guide are just a few of the many available resources that explore these topics, and are not endorsed by the FDIC.
- **Student Handouts** (found in the Student Guide) and **Teacher Presentation Slides** provide dynamic instructional support. Student handouts create an opportunity for students to apply their knowledge and for teachers to assess their understanding. Teacher presentation materials offer visuals and interactive activities corresponding with each lesson, and can be projected for whole-group activities, or copied for small-group use.
- The **Answer Key**, **Glossary**, and **Standards Chart** house all of the information needed to check for understanding, define key terms, and check which activities meet specific education standards. Vocabulary words are **bolded** in each lesson as they are introduced. The vocabulary words can be used to create flash cards or a classroom Word Bank list. Students can also make their own Word Banks and refer to the lists as needed.

MONEY SMART AT HOME

The **Money Smart** curriculum includes a helpful **Parent/Caregiver Guide** that corresponds to the classroom resources. Families of young children may also use it independently of the curriculum. It contains resources, activities, games, and conversation starters on financial literacy topics covered in each lesson. Use the following ideas to encourage parents to use the guide at home:

- Introduce parents to the **Money Smart** program and share the **Parent/Caregiver Guide** at the start of the school year.
- Discuss the **Money Smart** program during parent/teacher conferences, or in monthly parent newsletters home, and emphasize the importance of building healthy financial habits from an early age.
- Hold a **Money Smart** family night. Play games and have students present short skits about financial concepts they have learned.
- Send student handouts from each lesson home in each child's homework folder for parents to review and sign.

SMART BUCKS

Additional incentives can be used to promote positive financial behaviors and study habits throughout the *Money Smart* curriculum and school year. Introduce **Smart Bucks** to recognize students' positive financial and classroom behaviors.

Smart Bucks can be earned for the following behaviors:

- Accomplishment of a goal(s)
- Completion of homework
- Exceptional classroom conduct
- Keeping the classroom clean and neat
- Participating in discussions or responding to questions
- Excellent group collaboration or individual work
- Completing daily work
- Respectful behavior

As students accumulate **Smart Bucks**, they may spend them on prizes, toys, or special activities (for example: extra computer time, free reading time, game board time) at the end of the week or month, or whenever you normally provide rewards.

Smart Bucks may be tracked using a chart (displaying desired behaviors and goals), stored in a classroom “treasury” box, or in a cash register (if a class “store” is set up), and handed out to students using play money. Provide price tags or stickers on items or activities to be “sold.” The presentation for cashing in **Smart Bucks** can be as simple or elaborate as you choose.

Aside from being a fun way to reward positive behaviors, **Smart Bucks** can help foster an application of the financial literacy concepts covered in *Money Smart* lessons.

With **Smart Bucks**, students can practice:

- Math skills when adding the total of “Smart Bucks” earned
- The concept of making change without using a calculator
- The value of saving as they choose to save instead of spend, or set a goal to save for a more desired choice

Use **Smart Bucks** during *Money Smart* lessons or continue throughout the year.

FINANCIAL LITERACY ALL YEAR LONG

Highlight financial literacy at your school all year long, especially in April, during National Financial Literacy and School Library Month.

- Create bulletin boards or posters with students about financial literacy themes learned in *Money Smart*.
- Play games that focus on numeracy skills and financial concepts (such as Monopoly).
- Feature children’s literature selections that cover financial literacy concepts in the library or during classroom reading time. See the **Parent/Caregiver Guide** for more literature suggestions.

The more students are exposed to financial literacy, and the more opportunity they have to practice applying their new knowledge and understanding of concepts, at school and at home, the more prepared they will be to live *Money Smart* lives.

LESSONS AT-A-GLANCE

Lesson Title	Topic	Learning Objectives	Time Required
1 Money Matters	Buying Decisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the difference between needs and wants, and identify examples of each • Compare and prioritize needs and wants • Evaluate different choices when making a purchase • Discuss impulse buying • Discuss and explain opportunity cost 	60 min
2 Get Set for Goals	Setting Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and develop ways to set short-term and long-term goals for saving • Explain the importance of setting goals for saving • Identify things that might affect decisions to spend or save money 	60 min
3 Make a Plan	Budgeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the term “budget” • Identify categories of a budget (income, expenses, savings) • Create a budget • Apply budgeting skills to real-world scenarios • Understand the concept of “pay yourself first” 	60 min
4 Save Your Money	Saving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain what banks do and what interest is • Name benefits of saving money in a bank versus at home • Understand risks and why it’s important to save for emergencies • Evaluate real-world scenarios that focus on saving for emergencies, unexpected events, or purchases • Create an infographic to show possible risks for a real-world scenario 	60 min

LESSONS AT-A-GLANCE (continued)

Lesson Title	Topic	Learning Objectives	Time Required
5 Which Way to Pay?	Payment Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the concept of credit and debit (including checks and money orders) • Compare and contrast various payment methods (cash, credit, and debit) • Apply knowledge of payment options to real-world scenarios • Discuss the consequences of paying back credit past the due date • Discuss identity theft and types of personal information that should not be shared 	60 min
6 Get Invested	Introduction to Investing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore the basic concepts of investing, including risk and return • Compare and contrast several kinds of investments • Analyze the savings outcome of several investment options • Explain the value of long-term financial planning 	60 min
7 It's Great to Donate!	Charitable Giving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the meaning of charitable giving, and its rewards • Create a plan to raise money for a charitable cause • Research various charitable causes • Organize a charity drive 	60 min
8 Career Choices	Exploring Careers and Income	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and explore different types of jobs • Evaluate personal interests related to careers • Explain how money is earned and why it is taxed • Explain what an entrepreneur is 	60 min