Lesson Plan

Grow: Financial Planning for Life™

Smart Money Habits

45 minutes

Prerequisite: Smart Money Habits

INSTRUCTIONS

Each digital lesson is supplemented with a follow-up synchronous lesson plan to extend and reinforce learning. Activities and questions are structured in a way that supports both in-person and virtual classroom settings.

OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to…

- Identify different types of budgeting methods.
- Explain smart money habits and techniques.
- Demonstrate how to manage money from a paycheck.

MATERIALS

In-Person Lesson

- Writing utensils
- Budgeting Methods descriptions
- Hands-on activity
- Smart Money Habits activity
- Exit ticket

Virtual Lesson

- Writing utensils
- Budgeting Methods descriptions
- Smart Money Habits activity
- Exit ticket

LESSON OVERVIEW

The purpose of these lessons is to give students an opportunity to personally work with the concepts they learn in the modules. While students at the high school level may not be quite ready to explore retirement plans, understanding their personal values will help them learn how to prioritize their spending needs and savings goals.

SECTION	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	DURATION
Opening	*What does the phrase "pay yourself first" mean?* Have students write an answer to this question and do a think-pair-share. Record answers that are shared so the whole class can see. You will revisit this after the activity.	Virtual: Use break-out rooms for the pairing, use the whole class for sharing and whiteboard for recording answers. In-Person: Record shared answers on the board.	5 mins
New Learning	*"You have learned about the 50-30-20 and Category Methods for managing your money. Each of these methods is designed to give you direction on how best to use your money so that you can save for your goals. Read over each method again and be prepared to share which method feels best for you."* Distribute the Budgeting Methods sheet and discuss both methods with students and see which one that each student prefers. Be prepared to answer questions about each method as they arise.	Virtual: Share on screen or as a doc in your folders. In-Person: Copy, cut and distribute the "Savings Methods" half sheets.	10 mins
Activity: Project Introduction	*"These methods can help you get on track to reach your savings goals, but we need to spend some time thinking about how to prioritize actions in order to be ready to use either of these methods.* *We are going to do an activity in which you work with a partner or a group to place actions in the order that you think will set you up for following a method. Discuss and rank each item with your partner or group. Which action needs to come first, second, third, fourth and fifth to set you up to be able to follow a savings method?"*	Virtual: Share the Savings Methods information electronically. Use the Smart Money Habits Activity to rank actions instead of the hands-on activity. In-Person: Make copies of the Savings Methods page and cut in half to distribute to teams. Print and cut strips of paper in the hands-on activity to distribute to pairs or teams.	25 mins

SECTION	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	DURATION
Activity: Project Introduction (cont'd)	Distribute the Hands-on Activity to in-person learners. For virtual learners, you can move directly to the Smart Money Habits Activity and have students rank the order of actions on the paper while working with other students in break-out rooms. Discuss the ordering with teams and then distribute the Smart Money Habits Activity. By now, students should be able to rank the order of the steps by copying the order that they worked out with the previous activity. Instruct students to now match the action step with the definition/example to solidify their understanding. Give them time to change their ranking if needed. Discuss the ranking of the steps and if there are any clarifications needed. *Important Note: The order that is presented in the teacher guide can be changed; this is a suggested order but some students may see a different way to order these steps. Encourage them to find an order that makes sense for themselves but includes all steps.*		
Closing	Revisit the idea of "Pay yourself first" and share that it means you should put a part of every paycheck into your future. This can include depositing money into an emergency fund, savings, and/or retirement account. It may not feel like you are paying yourself if you are putting the money away, but it will pay off when you need it most!	Share verbally to all students	1 min
Evaluation	Complete the exit ticket and turn in.	Virtual: Distribute exit ticket electronically In-Person: Print and distribute the exit ticket.	3 mins

PRINTABLE CARDS

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS

Each column represents 5 cards that will be used with a pair or group of students. Make copies of this page and cut out each card. Give 5 cards to each group. Instruct students to work together to put them in an order that would help someone manage their money and stay out of debt.

Cut spending on wants	Cut spending on wants
Manage your debt	Manage your debt
Plan a savings strategy	Plan a savings strategy
Put aside savings for emergencies	Put aside savings for emergencies
Create savings goals and timelines	Create savings goals and timelines

ANSWER KEY

SMART MONEY HABITS

INSTRUCTIONS

Match the action step to the definition by drawing a line to connect them. Then decide which order these action steps should happen. Record the order in the left column 1-5.

ORDER: *What order should these steps go in? Write a number in this column from 1-5.*	**ACTION STEPS:** *Here are the proposed action steps covered in the lesson.*	**MATCH:** *Draw a line from the action step to its matching definition.*	**DEFINITIONS OF EACH ACTION STEP**
1	Cut spending on wants		Know what you are saving up for and when you would like to make those purchases.
3	Manage your debt		Spend no more than 50% of your income on needs, no more than 30% on wants, and at least 20% on savings.
5	Plan a savings strategy		Create a savings account for events that may happen out of your control (For example: Replacing a shattered screen of a phone.)
2	Put aside savings for emergencies		Reduce the amount of money that you spend on things that are not needs.
4	Create savings goals and timelines		Pay down credit card bills. Paying off credit cards each month will mean avoiding interest fees.