

Teaching the Facts of Life About Money

Investment and Money Management Resources for Parents and Teachers.

Money management and investing are two important life skills. Without these skills, the likelihood of financial difficulty increases – and financial problems are a leading cause of stress in adulthood. When children learn how to handle money wisely at an early age, they are more likely to have financial success as adults.

This factsheet contains helpful tips and resource lists that can be used by parents and teachers as a starting place to help young people learn how to manage money and how to invest wisely.

WEBSITES

Alberta Securities Commission (ASC): www.albertasecurities.com/Investors

Visit “The Time of Your Life” section in For Investors and find some great resources for learning about investing - at any age.

Financial Fitness Challenge: www.FinancialFitnessChallenge.ca

Fun educational site for students aged 15 to 21 years. Free classroom activities for teachers and students, and an online student quiz challenge linked to an annual contest. Brought to you by the ASC as a member of the Canadian Securities Administrators.

The Money Belt: www.themoneybelt.gc.ca

This site is dedicated to teaching financial life skills – the basics about money and the financial world in an easy-to-understand way relevant to youth aged 15 to 29 years. Check out The City, a fun on-line world for educators and their students, created to teach lifelong lessons about money through everyday scenarios. The City is a joint initiative of the Financial Consumer Agency of Canada and the British Columbia Securities Commission.

Money and Youth: www.moneyandyouth.cfee.org

Designed by the Canadian Foundation for Economic Education for teachers, parents, and youth to learn more about money and financial matters. Offers tips, resource guides and activities.

Grow Me the Money: www.growmethemoney.ca

Fun activities from the Manitoba Securities Commission that take youth and the beginner investor through some of life’s stages and financial challenges.

It’s Your Money: <https://secure.tesaffaires.com/en>

From the securities commission in Quebec, the Autorité des marchés financiers, with educational activities to help make students more aware of the benefits of sound personal finance management.

Financial Football Training Camp: www.practicalmoneyskills.com/english/at_school/trainingcamp/

Money matters will never be boring again with this football simulation game testing financial knowledge. Developed by Practical Money Skills for Life™.

Money Savvy Generation: www.msngen.com

Innovative products to help parents, educators and others teach kids the skills of basic personal finance.

Junior Achievement: www.jasouthalberta.org and www.janorthalberta.org

Programs delivered in schools upon request that help young Canadians discover leadership, entrepreneurial and workforce readiness skills.

READING MATERIAL

Investments 101 factsheet. View, print and request a free copy on albertasecurities.com (*For Investors - Courses and Resources*)

Rich by Thirty. Scorgie, Leslie (2007). ISBN: 9781552637944

Personal Finance for Canadians for Dummies, 4th Edition. Tyson, Eric and Tony Martin. (2006). ISBN: 9780470837689

Money Doesn't Grow on Trees: A Parent's Guide to Raising Financially Responsible Children. Godfrey, Neale S., Carolina Edwards and revision by Tad Richards (2006). ISBN: 9780743287807

Raising Money Smart Kids: What They Need to Know About Money and How to Tell Them. Bodnar, Janet. (2005). ISBN: 1419505165

Investing For Canadians for Dummies. Tyson, Eric and Tony Martin (2004). ISBN: 9780470833612

GAMES AS LEARNING TOOLS

The Game of Life board game: www.hasbro.com (use "product search")

Travel through the stages of life making important financial decisions along the way.

Gazillionaire free online simulation game: www.lavamind.com/gaz.html

Explore new worlds, build your business and make a fortune.

Hollywood Stock Exchange free stock market simulation: www.hsx.com.

Buy and sell virtual shares of celebrities and movies.

Monopoly board game: www.hasbro.com (use "product search") *Buy properties, build houses and hotels, and charge other players rent in this classic board game.*

Stock Ticker board game: www.boardgames.ca (use "search") *Buy and sell stocks and by doing so, accumulate more money than your opponents.*

A FINAL NOTE ON TALKING TO YOUR KIDS

Youth are watching and learning from you all the time. One of the most important things you can do for your students or children is to talk to them at an early age about responsible financial management.

Visit *For Investors* on www.albertasecurities.com to find more practical and non-promotional information on the basics of investing, avoiding fraud, choosing an adviser, and the top investing mistakes.

Here's a checklist to help you:

- ✓ From a young age, teach children about basic financial concepts and model responsible money management.
- ✓ As children get older, have an open dialogue about the importance of financial planning and show them how to conduct research and check first before investing.
- ✓ Explain the relationship between risk and return and have them ask themselves: What are my future cash needs? For example, a car, a first house, or educational expenses.
- ✓ Bring financial resources and reading material, such as those listed above into the classroom or home. Ideas include financial, business or investing magazines and newspapers, watching business news on T.V. or the internet together or playing games that relate to money and finances.