

Lesson Plan & Discussion Guide

A companion guide for the NewsFlash Financial Literacy Worksheets

Grades: K-5 (Ages 5-12)

Duration: 20 minutes

Subject: Financial Literacy

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Students will be able to define key investing vocabulary, including stock, profit, loss, risk, diversification, and investing.
- Students will explain how real-world news and events can cause a stock's price to go up or down.
- Students will describe how supply and demand affect the price of something.
- Students will compare "safe and steady" choices to "risky and high reward" choices, and explain the trade-off between them.

MATERIALS NEEDED

Printed copies of Worksheets 1-4 (one set per student), pencils or crayons, and optional access to the free NewsFlash game at kidstockgame.com for a follow-up activity.

20-MINUTE CLASSROOM ACTIVITY

TIME	SEGMENT	WHAT TO DO
0-3 min	Warm-Up	Ask the class: "Has anyone ever wanted something so badly that you would have paid extra for it?" Take 2-3 answers to introduce the idea of demand.
3-8 min	Vocabulary Match	Hand out Worksheet 1. Let students work in pairs to match each vocabulary word to its definition. Review the answers together as a class.
8-14 min	Headline Read-Aloud	Hand out Worksheet 2. Read each headline aloud together. After each one, have students vote UP or DOWN with a thumbs up or thumbs down before writing their answer.
14-18 min	Quick Sort	Using Worksheets 3 and 4, pick 2-3 scenarios to work through as a group. Ask volunteers to explain their reasoning out loud before students finish the rest independently or for homework.
18-20 min	Wrap-Up	Go around the room and have each student share one new thing they learned in a single sentence.

FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why do you think prices change based on the news?
2. Can you think of a real product that had high demand and low supply?
3. Would you rather have a safe investment or a risky one? Why?
4. What does diversification mean, and why is spreading out your money smart?
5. How could you use what you learned today with your own allowance or savings?

EXTEND THE LESSON

Bring it to life: Have students play the free NewsFlash game at kidstockgame.com and track how one headline changes a stock's price in real time. Ask them to write down whether the result matched their prediction.

Tip for teachers: Keep all whole-dollar math simple. It's okay for students to round or estimate. The goal is understanding the concept, not the exact number.