

LEARNING WHILE AWAY FROM SCHOOL: RESOURCES FOR TEACHING CHILDREN ABOUT MONEY

Mary M. Martin
UW Extension Area Educator

March 2020

Your children are out of school, in the middle of the semester, and you are now the home room teacher. The house is getting crowded, and social distancing has them quite bored.

Our response to COVID-19 can mean that we have an opportunity to guide learning. In fact, this could be a great time to teach your children some valuable life lessons, including how to effectively use, manage and save money.

Research shows us that life skills education will stay with children through their lifetime. Money management and financial literacy are essential life skills. The resources below are reliable and nonbiased and offer easy-to-use financial education content for any age. Check them out and let the learning continue at home.



Jump\$tart Clearinghouse

A comprehensive online library of financial education resources for teachers, parents and students. You can search by grade level or resource type (video, lesson plans, games, etc.) to find what works best for you and your family!
jumpstartclearinghouse.org/resource/search

CFPB's Money as You Grow

Developed by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the lessons in Money as You Grow were based on more than a year of research and drawn from dozens of standards, curricula and academic studies; plus they use easy-to-understand language—effectively meeting you—and your child—where you are! You will find fun age-appropriate activities including a bookshelf listing reading recommendations.
consumerfinance.gov/consumer-tools/money-as-you-grow

NextGen Personal Finance

NGPF's mission is to revolutionize the teaching of personal finance in all schools in order to improve the financial lives of the next generation of Americans. They make it easy for teachers (or parents) to engage students by providing ready-to-use curricula including a teaching toolkit. Check out their Arcade for fun online games, interactives and quizzes! ngpf.org

FDIC Money Smart

This “young people’s” curriculum is innovative and aligns with standards. It can be incorporated into subjects such as English language arts, mathematics and social studies. The curriculum also offers real-life exercises and examples and options for online games that can reinforce understanding. fdic.gov/consumers/consumer/moneysmart/young.html

NEFE’s High School Financial Planning Program

Do you have a high schooler? This program “empowers students to map their future.” It has six online modules that teach money management, borrowing, earning power, investing, financial services and insurance. Students will learn how to chart and adjust their route as their values and life circumstances change. Be sure to check out their “For Parents” section for additional at-home activities. hsfpp.org

MoneySkill: The course includes the content areas of income, expenses, saving and investing, credit and insurance. The high school and college course is designed to be used as all or part of a course in economics, business, math, social studies or wherever personal finances are taught. Students can access the modules in the classroom, home or wherever an Internet connection is available. Built-in quizzes test students’ grasp of each concept. These resources are available in Spanish. afsaef.org

Adapted and revised from “5 Personal Finance Education Resources for Kids, Great for Homeschool During COVID-19” by the Association of Financial Counseling and Planning Education, 2020, and “Free Online Personal Finance Lesson Plans and Resources for Educators” by North Dakota State University Extension, 2020.

Trade or brand names used in this publication are used only for the purpose of educational information. The information given herein is supplied with the understanding that no discrimination is intended, and no endorsement information of products by the University of Wyoming Extension is implied. Nor does it imply approval of products to the exclusion of others, which may also be suitable.

The University of Wyoming is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.