Unit 1: Introduction to Economics and Economic Systems

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Title Section

Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Belleville Public Schools

Curriculum Guide

Personal Finance & Economics

Unit 1: Introduction to Economics and Economic Systems

Belleville Board of Education

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Unit Overview

Personal Finance and Economics is a financial literacy course that is structured with a social science approach to the teaching of economics and personal finance. This semester course provides qualified students with the basic principles of economics, how the market works, the role of business and labor in the United States economy, and an introduction to the world of money, banking and finance.

In the first unit, students will review the governmental and societal forces that effect personal financial and economic structures.

Enduring Understanding

Students will understand that

- All resources are scarce, and economics is the study of how people seek to satisfy their needs and wants by making choices.
- Tradeoffs are all the alternatives that we give up when we choose one course of action over another.
- A free market is an economic system powered by individuals acting in their own self-interest, while in a centrally planned economy the government controls the factors of production decides who gets what.
- Basic principles include the profit motive, an open marketplace, and economic rights. Benefits include individual freedom for consumers and producers, as well as a wide variety of goods and services.

Essential Questions

- Why are scarcity and choice the basic problems of economics?
- Why does every decision involve a trade off?
- What are the differences between a free market economy and a centrally planned economy?
- What are the basic principles and benefits of the U.S. free enterprise system?

Exit Skills

- Students will be able to:
    - explain why scarcity and choice are basic problems of economics.
    - identify the three factors of production and the two types of capital.
    - describe why every decision involves trade offs.
    - explain the concept of opportunity cost.
    - explain how people make decisions by thinking at the margin.
    - identify the three key economic questions of what to produce, how to produce and who consumes what is produced.

- describe the traditions and principles of free enterprise in the United States and the constitutional protections that underlie them.
- analyze the roles of the consumer and the government in the U.S. System.
- analyze how the government promotes economic strength.
- evaluate how the government allocates resources.
- compare and contrast a free market system with a centrally planned economy.

New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS-S)

9.3.12.FN.1	Utilize mathematical concepts, skills and problem solving to obtain necessary information for decision making in the finance industry.
9.3.12.FN.12	Access, evaluate and disseminate financial information to enhance financial decision-making processes.
PFL.9.1.12.A.1	Differentiate among the types of taxes and employee benefits.
PFL.9.1.12.A.2	Differentiate between taxable and nontaxable income.
PFL.9.1.12.A.3	Analyze the relationship between various careers and personal earning goals.
PFL.9.1.12.A.4	Identify a career goal and develop a plan and timetable for achieving it, including educational/training requirements, costs, and possible debt.
PFL.9.1.12.B.1	Prioritize financial decisions by systematically considering alternatives and possible consequences.
PFL.9.1.12.E.1	Evaluate the appropriateness of different types of monetary transactions (e.g., electronic transfer, check, certified check, money order, gift card, barter) for various situations.
PFL.9.1.12.E.2	Analyze and apply multiple sources of financial information when prioritizing financial decisions.
PFL.9.1.12.E.3	Determine how objective, accurate, and current financial information affects the prioritization of financial decisions.
PFL.9.1.12.E.4	Evaluate how media, bias, purpose, and validity affect the prioritization of consumer decisions and spending.
PFL.9.1.12.E.5	Evaluate business practices and their impact on individuals, families, and societies.
PFL.9.1.12.E.6	Evaluate written and verbal contracts for essential components and for obligations of the lender and borrower.
PFL.9.1.12.E.7	Apply specific consumer protection laws to the issues they address.
PFL.9.1.12.E.8	Relate consumer fraud, including online scams and theft of employee time and goods, to laws that protect consumers.
PFL.9.1.12.E.9	Determine when credit counseling is necessary and evaluate the resources available to assist consumers who wish to use it.
PFL.9.1.12.E.10	Determine reasons for the increase of identity theft worldwide and evaluate the extent to which victims of identity theft are successful in fully restoring their personal identities.
SOC.6.1.12.C.6.c	Analyze the impact of money, investment, credit, savings, debt, and financial institutions on the development of the nation and the lives of individuals.
SOC.6.3.12.C.1	Participate in a simulated meeting (e.g., President's Council, World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF)), research evidence from multiple sources about an economic problem, (e.g., inflation, unemployment, deficit), and develop a plan of action.

Interdisciplinary Connections

English Language Arts

- Language skills
- Analytical writing
- Making inferences from complex texts
- Research writing
- View films, dramas, artwork, and other mediums to compare and contrast to elements of a text.
- Examine a variety of primary and secondary sources and investigate point of view

Mathematics

- Examine data from graphs, maps and charts and make inferences on their impacts
- Reason abstractly and quantitatively
- Predict supply and demand graphs

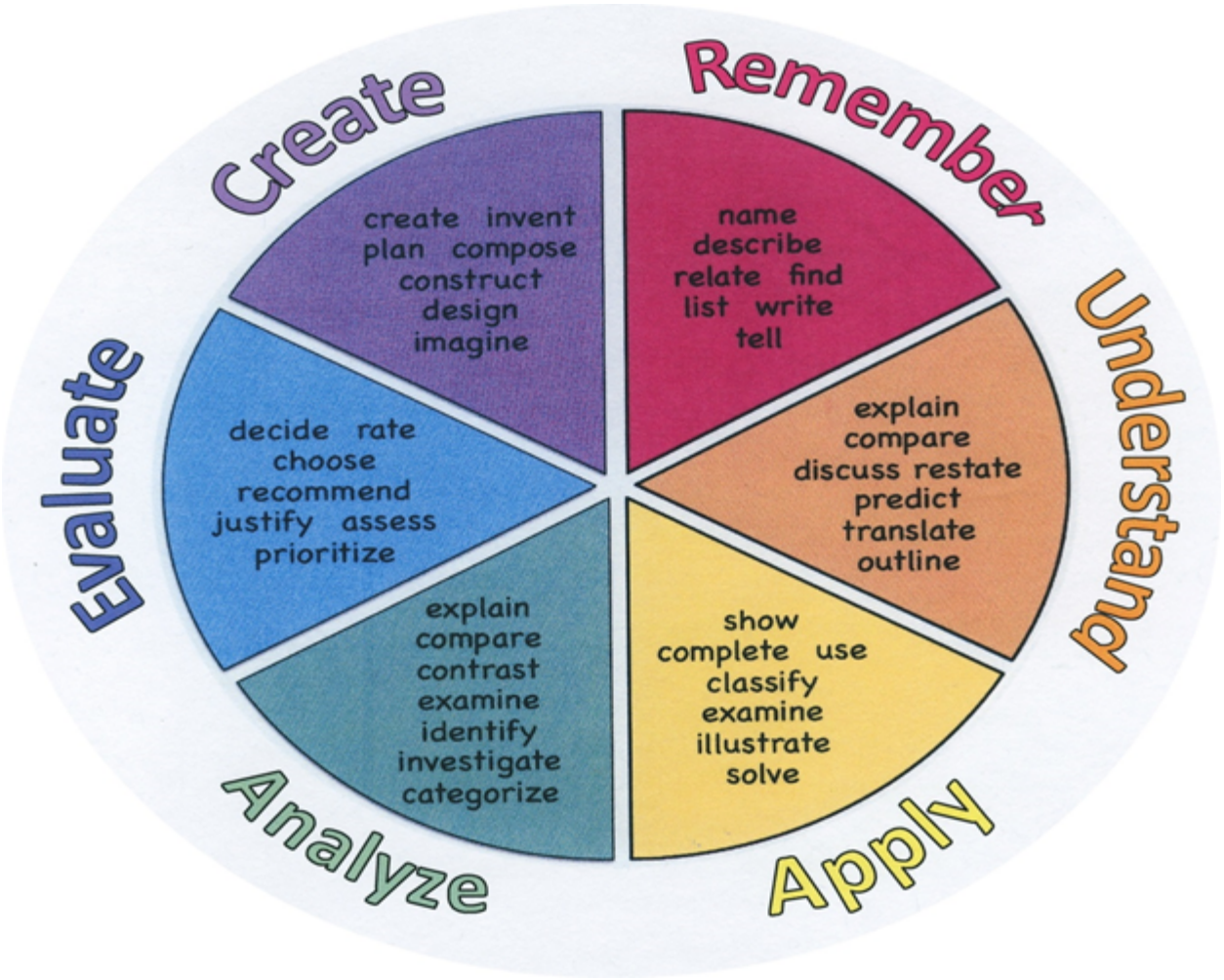
LA.RH.9-10.1	Accurately cite strong and thorough textual evidence, to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, attending to such features as the date and origin of the information.
MA.K-12.2	Reason abstractly and quantitatively. Mathematically proficient students make sense of quantities and their relationships in problem situations. They bring two complementary abilities to bear on problems involving quantitative relationships: the ability to decontextualize—to abstract a given situation and represent it symbolically and manipulate the representing symbols as if they have a life of their own, without necessarily attending to their referents—and the ability to contextualize, to pause as needed during the manipulation process in order to probe into the referents for the symbols involved. Quantitative reasoning entails habits of creating a coherent representation of the problem at hand; considering the units involved; attending to the meaning of quantities, not just how to compute them; and knowing and flexibly using different properties of operations and objects.
MA.S-ID.A.2	Use statistics appropriate to the shape of the data distribution to compare center (median, mean) and spread (interquartile range, standard deviation) of two or more different data sets.
LA.WHST.9-10.2.A	Introduce a topic and organize ideas, concepts, and information to make important connections and distinctions; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., figures, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
LA.WHST.9-10.2.B	Develop the topic with well-chosen, relevant, and sufficient facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.
LA.WHST.9-10.2.C	Use varied transitions and sentence structures to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.
LA.WHST.9-10.2.D	Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to manage the complexity of the topic and convey a style appropriate to the discipline and context as well as to the expertise of likely readers.
LA.WHST.9-10.2.E	Establish and maintain a style and tone appropriate to the audience and purpose (e.g., formal and objective for academic writing) while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.
LA.WHST.9-10.2.F	Provide a concluding paragraph or section that supports the argument presented.

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to:

- explain why scarcity and choice are basic problems of economics.
- identify the three factors of production and the two types of capital.
- describe why every decision involves trade offs.
- explain the concept of opportunity cost.
- explain how people make decisions by thinking at the margin.
- identify the three key economic questions of what to produce, how to produce and who consumes what is produced.
- describe the traditions and principles of free enterprise in the United States and the constitutional protections that underlie them.
- analyze the roles of the consumer and the government in the U.S. System.
- analyze how the government promotes economic strength.
- evaluate how the government allocates resources.
- compare and contrast a free market system with a centrally planned economy

Remember	Understand	Apply	Analyze	Evaluate	Create
Choose	Classify	Choose	Categorize	Appraise	Combine
Describe	Defend	Dramatize	Classify	Judge	Compose
Define	Demonstrate	Explain	Compare	Criticize	Construct
Label	Distinguish	Generalize	Differentiate	Defend	Design
List	Explain	Judge	Distinguish	Compare	Develop
Locate	Express	Organize	Identify	Assess	Formulate
Match	Extend	Paint	Infer	Conclude	Hypothesize
Memorize	Give Examples	Prepare	Point out	Contrast	Invent
Name	Illustrate	Produce	Select	Critique	Make
Omit	Indicate	Select	Subdivide	Determine	Originate
Recite	Interrelate	Show	Survey	Grade	Organize
Select	Interpret	Sketch	Arrange	Justify	Plan
State	Infer	Solve	Breakdown	Measure	Produce
Count	Match	Use	Combine	Rank	Role Play
Draw	Paraphrase	Add	Detect	Rate	Drive
Outline	Represent	Calculate	Diagram	Support	Devise
Point	Restate	Change	Discriminate	Test	Generate
Quote	Rewrite	Classify	Illustrate		Integrate
Recall	Select	Complete	Outline		Prescribe
Recognize	Show	Compute	Point out		Propose
Repeat	Summarize	Discover	Separate		Reconstruct
Reproduce	Tell	Divide			Revise
	Translate	Examine			Rewrite
	Associate	Graph			Transform
	Compute	Interpolate			
	Convert	Manipulate			
	Discuss	Modify			
	Estimate	Operate			
	Extrapolate	Subtract			
	Generalize				
	Predict				



Suggested Activities & Best Practices

- “Creating a new economy” project-students will assess the scarcity of limited resources in creating a new economy on a fictional stranded island.
- Create pamphlets promoting benefits and/or harms of capitalism, socialism and communism.
- Creating journals to illustrate economic principles using examples from students’ lives.
- Group work/Cooperative learning where students create a fictional company in order to see how entrepreneurs pull together all the factors of production to create a business.
- Letter writing assignment where students write to a company giving their opinion on a specific product.

Assessment Evidence - Checking for Understanding (CFU)

- Journal entries (Summative)
- Graphic Organizers (Formative)
- Open ended questions (Formative)
- Quizzes/Tests (Summative)
- Think/Pair/Share (Formative)

- Benchmarks -Quarterly (Benchmark)

- Admit Tickets
- Anticipation Guide
- Common Benchmarks
- Compare & Contrast
- Create a Multimedia Poster
- DBQ's
- Define
- Describe
- Evaluate
- Evaluation rubrics
- Exit Tickets
- Explaining
- Fist- to-Five or Thumb-Ometer
- Illustration
- Journals
- KWL Chart
- Learning Center Activities
- Multimedia Reports
- Newspaper Headline
- Outline
- Question Stems
- Quickwrite
- Quizzes
- Red Light, Green Light
- Self- assessments
- Socratic Seminar
- Study Guide
- Surveys
- Teacher Observation Checklist
- Think, Pair, Share
- Think, Write, Pair, Share
- Top 10 List
- Unit review/Test prep
- Unit tests
- Web-Based Assessments
- Written Reports

Primary Resources & Materials

- Economics: Principles in Action textbook (https://2012books.lardbucket.org/pdfs/economics-principles-v1.1.pdf)
- Primary source documents
- NEFE workbook
- EverFi: Software program
- Software for creating pamphlets

Ancillary Resources

Virtual stock exchange- www.marketwatch.com/game/

Any additional relevant articles or current events suggested by instructor (and approved by administration)

Technology Infusion

- Google platforms (such as Google classroom)
- Podcasts
- Twitter resources



Alignment to 21st Century Skills & Technology

Mastery and infusion of **21st Century Skills & Technology** and their Alignment to the core content areas is essential to student learning. The core content areas include:

- English Language Arts;
- Mathematics;
- Science and Scientific Inquiry (Next Generation);
- Social Studies, including American History, World History, Geography, Government and Civics, and Economics;
- World languages;
- Technology

CRP.K-12.CRP2	Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
CRP.K-12.CRP4	Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
CRP.K-12.CRP5	Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.
CRP.K-12.CRP6	Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
CRP.K-12.CRP7	Employ valid and reliable research strategies.
CRP.K-12.CRP8	Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
CRP.K-12.CRP9	Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.
CRP.K-12.CRP11	Use technology to enhance productivity.
CRP.K-12.CRP12	Work productively in teams while using cultural global competence.
CAEP.9.2.12.C.2	Modify Personalized Student Learning Plans to support declared career goals.
CAEP.9.2.12.C.9	Analyze the correlation between personal and financial behavior and employability.
TECH.8.1.12.A.1	Create a personal digital portfolio which reflects personal and academic interests, achievements, and career aspirations by using a variety of digital tools and resources.
TECH.8.1.12.A.2	Produce and edit a multi-page digital document for a commercial or professional audience and present it to peers and/or professionals in that related area for review.
TECH.8.1.12.A.3	Collaborate in online courses, learning communities, social networks or virtual worlds to discuss a resolution to a problem or issue.
TECH.8.1.12.A.4	Construct a spreadsheet workbook with multiple worksheets, rename tabs to reflect the data on the worksheet, and use mathematical or logical functions, charts and data from all worksheets to convey the results.
TECH.8.1.12.A.5	Create a report from a relational database consisting of at least two tables and describe the process, and explain the report results.
TECH.8.1.12.C.1	Develop an innovative solution to a real world problem or issue in collaboration with peers and experts, and present ideas for feedback through social media or in an online community.

21st Century Skills/Interdisciplinary Themes

- Communication and Collaboration
- Creativity and Innovation
- Critical thinking and Problem Solving
- ICT (Information, Communications and Technology) Literacy

- Information Literacy
- Life and Career Skills
- Media Literacy

21st Century Skills

- Civic Literacy
- Environmental Literacy
- Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy
- Global Awareness
- Health Literacy

Differentiation

- Tiered Lessons
- Flexible Grouping
- Project Based learning

Differentiations:

- Small group instruction
- Small group assignments
- Extra time to complete assignments
- Pairing oral instruction with visuals
- Repeat directions
- Use manipulatives
- Center-based instruction
- Token economy
- Study guides
- Teacher reads assessments allowed
- Scheduled breaks
- Rephrase written directions
- Multisensory approaches
- Additional time
- Preview vocabulary
- Preview content & concepts
- Story guides
- Behavior management plan
- Highlight text
- Student(s) work with assigned partner
- Visual presentation
- Assistive technology
- Auditory presentations
- Large print edition
- Dictation to scribe
- Small group setting

Hi-Prep Differentiations:

- Alternative formative and summative assessments
- Choice boards
- Games and tournaments
- Group investigations
- Guided Reading
- Independent research and projects
- Interest groups
- Learning contracts
- Leveled rubrics
- Literature circles
- Multiple intelligence options
- Multiple texts
- Personal agendas
- Project-based learning
- Problem-based learning
- Stations/centers
- Think-Tac-Toes
- Tiered activities/assignments
- Tiered products
- Varying organizers for instructions

Lo-Prep Differentiations

- Choice of books or activities
- Cubing activities
- Exploration by interest
- Flexible grouping
- Goal setting with students
- Jigsaw
- Mini workshops to re-teach or extend skills
- Open-ended activities
- Think-Pair-Share
- Reading buddies
- Varied journal prompts
- Varied supplemental materials

Special Education Learning (IEP's & 504's)

- Modifications & accommodations as listed in the student's IEP/504 plan
- Modified or reduced assignments
- Working contract with student
- Prioritize tasks
- Break tests down in smaller increment NJDOE resources

- Modified reading of Adam Smith's A Wealth of Nations
- Graphic organizers
- Modified essay rubrics
- Scarcity and decision making chart

- printed copy of board work/notes provided
- additional time for skill mastery
- assistive technology
- behavior management plan
- Center-Based Instruction
- check work frequently for understanding
- computer or electronic device utilizes
- extended time on tests/ quizzes
- have student repeat directions to check for understanding
- highlighted text visual presentation
- modified assignment format
- modified test content
- modified test format
- modified test length
- multi-sensory presentation
- multiple test sessions
- preferential seating
- preview of content, concepts, and vocabulary
- Provide modifications as dictated in the student's IEP/504 plan
- reduced/shortened reading assignments
- Reduced/shortened written assignments
- secure attention before giving instruction/directions
- shortened assignments
- student working with an assigned partner
- teacher initiated weekly assignment sheet
- Use open book, study guides, test prototypes

English Language Learning (ELL)

- Visual organizer of economic concepts

- Google Translate
- Strategy groups
- Teacher conferences
- Graphic organizers
- Modification plan
- NJDOE resources

- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarif
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning;
- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- decreasing the amount of workpresented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using computer word processing spell check and grammar check features
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests

At Risk

- Tiered Interventions following I&RS plan
- Visual aids on economic concepts
- Modified reading
- Tiered Interventions following RtI framework
- Modified "Economics and Society" project

- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information

- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning
- allowing students to select from given choices
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- collaborating (general education teacher and specialist) to modify vocabulary, omit or modify items to reflect objectives for the student, eliminate sections of the test, and determine how the grade will be determined prior to giving the test.
- decreasing the amount of workpresented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- marking students' correct and acceptable work, not the mistakes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using authentic assessments with real-life problem-solving
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify

Talented and Gifted Learning (T&G)

- Research paper analysis on economic impacts of Communism vs. Capitalism
- Thinking At the Margin enrichment activity
- Opportunity Cost of college research project

- Above grade level placement option for qualified students
- Advanced problem-solving
- Allow students to work at a faster pace
- Cluster grouping
- Complete activities aligned with above grade level text using Benchmark results
- Create a blog or social media page about their unit
- Create a plan to solve an issue presented in the class or in a text
- Debate issues with research to support arguments
- Flexible skill grouping within a class or across grade level for rigor
- Higher order, critical & creative thinking skills, and discovery
- Multi-disciplinary unit and/or project
- Teacher-selected instructional strategies that are focused to provide challenge, engagement, and growth opportunities
- Utilize exploratory connections to higher-grade concepts
- Utilize project-based learning for greater depth of knowledge

Sample Lesson

Teacher plans: https://www.practicalmoneyskills.com/assets/pdfs/lessons/lev9-12/TG_Lesson18.pdf

Student activities: https://www.practicalmoneyskills.com/assets/pdfs/lessons/lev9-12/SA_Lesson18.pdf