I've altered this text from Project Foundry slightly for application, but this overview of PBL is a good place to start for those who may be unfamiliar...L.Smith

# **Project-Based Learning Lesson Plans**

Projects that come out of project-based learning classrooms are like snowflakes and fingerprints - no two are ever alike. They may share characteristics, topics, subjects and titles, but they'll always be different. The proposal will be different. The path the student takes to complete the project will be different. The advice from teacher to student will be different. And, of course, the end result will be different.

Project-based learning lesson plans are an oxymoron to some degree. At its core, project-based learning is unscripted. There are guides and rubrics and a plethora of other materials to keep both the teacher and student on the right track, but the destination is always unknown, as is the path taken to get there. It truly is an exploration.

On the other hand, most educators - especially those new to project-based learning - have always structured their teaching around lesson plans. So it's natural to seek out project-based learning lesson plans when shifting toward a PBL approach. Thankfully, the Internet is packed with sample plans for eager teachers to peruse...

However, we can't stress enough the point that we made above - that all projects are unique. Allow lessons to aid in your planning and brainstorming, but don't let them become a "must follow" road map.

Think of it as the difference between "can" and "must."

To follow, you will find a few examples of Council for Economic Education PBL programs including: Teaching the News, My Classroom Economy, Using Film to Teach Econ, etc.

There are also cross-over programs that blend technology and PBL like Smart X, Econed Link, etc.

*Virtual Economics (VE) is an absolutely invaluable tool with links to lessons as you want/need them.* 

The programs or lessons shown below are just a FEW that are available! Also, included at the end are a few programs by other organizations- there are myriad more available too!

### **Distribution of Income**

By Grant Black



### GRADES: 9-12

Students engage in a simulation to explore how productivity influences the distribution of income and how government policy influences the...



Smart X is a comprehensive program that focuses on engaging entire schools, school districts, and states, to help elevate sound personal finance education as a broader educational priority that extends beyond just one classroom. The program uses the Council for Economic Education's award-winning *Financial Fitness for Life* series to integrate financial literacy lessons at all grade levels with an optional capstone course in high school.

Key features include:

- Professional development for teachers focused on both content and pedagogy, so that they have the knowledge and the ability to make these lessons come alive in the classroom effectively
- Student lessons which are activity-based and focus on good decision-making within the themes of education, saving, spending, money management, and credit
- A parent component, allowing teachers to send home lessons that facilitate critical family-based financial education discussions
- Alignment of lessons to the Common Core in Math and English Language Arts, as well as to standards in financial literacy
- Nationally-normed pre- and post-test assessments to gauge student learning
- A sustainable model for ongoing financial literacy education

The Smart X program has been implemented at the state level in Nevada, Ohio, Tennessee, and Texas. The Tennessee program, which has been active the longest, has reached more than 85,000 students, and pre/post-testing has demonstrated meaningful student achievement gains. Among elementary school students tested, only 10% achieved a benchmark score of 70% on a pre-test; more than 48% achieved that benchmark on a post-test.

# \*Econed Link (3:54 minutes)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QjlxHXFs5yo&feature=youtu.be&autoplay=1

# Car Loan Project

http://www.econedlink.org/lessons/index.php?lid=386&type=educator

# **Group Project, Create a New Product**

http://www.councilforeconed.org/tag/group-projects/

# \*My Classroom Economy

https://www.youtube.com/watch?t=48&v=LpS\_0oAZQzI

# **Projects with Film**

https://www.google.com/url?q=http://www.councilforeconed.org/2014/07 /16/dr-sonia-noyola-from-collegiate-high-school-on-using-film-to-teacheconomics/&sa=U&ei=nPqbVZyRGoOuyAS2jYawCw&ved=0CAUQFjAA&clien t=internal-uds-cse&usg=AFQjCNFV9ObDHhqd31W5j6-7ILxLmC59\_g

# Virtual Economics (VE)



CLASSROOM RESOURCES

- Interactive
- USB Flash Drive
- Video

GRADES: K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12 SUBJECTS

- AP Economics
- Business & Economics
- Financial Literacy
- General Economics
- Language Arts & Economics
- Math & Economics
- Science & Economics
- Social Studies & Economics

#### Resources

- Companion Web Site
- Video Guided Tour
- Video Teacher Recommendation

### Attention Economics and Personal Finance Educators:

### What if you could make lesson planning an easy process?

Searching for materials can be difficult and time consuming. Don't you wish there was an efficient way to build lessons that appeal to your students and correlate with the most up to date state content standards? Discover the all-in-one flash drive—Virtual Economics—your one-stop resource to print-based, web-based and multimedia materials.

### **Key Features**

- Build your own lessons customize your lessons with our huge supply of resources
- 81 publications a vast library of educational resources
- More Flash Drive memory now with an extra gig of memory, saving relevant lessons is a breeze.
- Automatic Lesson Updates when connected to the Internet, your VE 4.5 search results will automatically be enhanced with new and updated lessons from CEE's EconEdLink library. It's seamless and is provided at no additional cost.

- Multiple Search Options search by National and/or State Standards, by grade band, keyword, or publication
- Useful Tips short cuts for each lesson provide helpful hints for you and your students
- **Glossary** over 500 crystal-clear terms and definitions

# **Assessment Tools**

http://www.councilforeconed.org/resources/online-assessment-center/

# **TEACHING THE NEWS**

http://www.councilforeconed.org/resources/teaching-the-news/

## Why Use Teaching the News?

Economic lessons can sometimes seem too abstract for students. "Teaching the News" not only puts these lessons into real life perspective but it also helps educate your students on how to critically engage with current events. Use these current events to teach the news in your classroom. Following each article you'll find several related resources from EconEdLink.org for teaching the underlying economics and personal finance concepts.

# *Cities are catalysts for better economic growth and climate action, according ...* – *National Geographic*

Better economic growth can help close the greenhouse gas emissions gap, according to a new report released today by the New Climate Economy, the flagship project of the Global Commission on the Economy and Climate. Seizing the Global Opportunity: ...

## 3 Financial Realities New Grads Have to Face – Huffington Post

Because compound interest needs time to grow. Barbara Friedberg, writing for GoodFinancialCents.com, provides a simple chart that displays what would happen if the value of a penny doubled every day for a month. Guess what? On day 31, the doubling of ...

# Pushing for 4 percent economic growth, Jeb Bush faults Obama's 'zombie ... – Washington Post (blog)

Former Florida governor Jeb Bush has been an aggressive critic of President Obama's stewardship of the U.S. economy. Now he's got a new way to describe it. "Zombie economy." "Barack Obama's policies have given us a zombie economy where no matter ...

# FACT SHEET: The Export-Import Bank: Supporting American Exports and ... -Whitehouse.gov (press release)

The Export-Import Bank, or "Ex-Im," is a critical tool in the bipartisan trade agenda that helps U.S. businesses succeed in global markets and grow their exports. Ex-Im equips companies with financing they need to go toe-to-toe with foreign rivals ...

## The Top 6 Ways of How to Raise Capital on a Continuous Basis – Entrepreneur

As a startup, you are always going to be raising capital. Learning how to pitch successfully is important and pitching as often as possible increases your chances of raising more capital for your business. If you go after capital investment from ...

## 5 Things You'll Never Hear From a Successful Entrepreneur – Entrepreneur

Nevertheless, there are fundamental qualities that almost every successful entrepreneur shares in common. They are passionate, imaginative and undaunted by the inevitable challenges of starting a business from scratch. That's why you'll never hear a ...

## KKR Settles Over 'Broken Deal' Expenses – New York Times

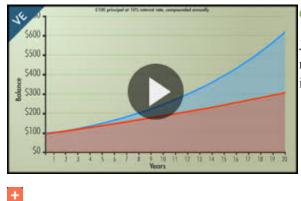
For years, private equity firms operated behind a curtain of mystery when it came to how they passed along expenses to investors. The Securities and Exchange Commission is now beginning to pull back the curtain and shine a light on those practices.

## 12 Steps to Go From Employee to Entrepreneur – TIME

If you're fed up with your job, it may seem like there are only two steps to becoming an entrepreneur. The first is to quit your job, and the next step is to start a company. While it is possible to transition successfully from employee to entrepreneur ...

www.econedlink.org

www.econedlink.org/interactives/index.php?iid=227



## Compound Interest | EconEdLink

Jul 12, 2012 ... ... credit score and an auto loan interest rate **based** on their credit score. ... Students will make the information relevant through **projects**, graphic ...

### Share

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## **Common Core State Standards**

Below are the Common Core State Standards that most closely relate to the following lesson.

### LESSON

How Global is Your Portfolio? ~ http://www.econedlink.org/e918

Grades: 3-5, 6-8

### **STANDARDS**

- English Language Arts
  - College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Language Vocabulary Acquisition and Use
    - CCRA.L.6 Acquire and use accurately a range of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when encountering an unknown term important to comprehension or expression.
  - College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Speaking and Listening -Comprehension and Collaboration
    - CCRA.SL.3 Evaluate a speaker's point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric.

- CCRA.SL.4 Present information, findings, and supporting evidence such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- CCRA.SL.5 Make strategic use of digital media and visual displays of data to express information and enhance understanding of presentations.
- College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Writing Research to Build and Present Knowledge
  - CCRA.W.7 Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.
- History/Social Studies -- Grade 6-8 Key Ideas and Details
  - RH.6-8.2 Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.
  - RH.6-8.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary specific to domains related to history/social studies.
- Writing Grade 6-8 Text Types and Purposes
  - WHST.6-8.2 Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/ experiments, or technical processes.
  - WHST.6-8.8 Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.

### Other Organizations and Programs for Project Based Learning

http://www.edutopia.org/financial-literacy-resources

http://www.learningreviews.com/Project-Based-Learning-Lesson-Plans.html

http://projectfoundry.org/project-based-learning-explained/project-based-learning-lesson-plans.html

http://www.learning.com/inquiry/