

Investors Club: March Challenge

This lesson is intended to be a short, engaging activity for students to dig deeper into the world of finance and investing. It is meant as a way to keep students engaged in their learning around the Investors Club, especially when they are not making daily trades within their portfolio.

Lesson objectives:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will learn what Wall Street is, what it represents, and how it functions as an integral part of our economy. • Students will develop their own opinion about the relationship between investment banking and Wall Street and the overall state of the economy. 		
Assessment:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classwork • Class Discussion 		
Key Points:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will watch and discuss a short video that will help them make the connection between Wall Street/investing and the larger economy. 		
Component:	Teacher & Student Actions	Materials
Do Now [5 min]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do Now: What do you think of when you see “Wall Street” and “Economy” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ask students to think to themselves or write down on a piece of paper their response to the above question 	Student journal or piece of paper
Class Brainstorm [5 min]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Word Web <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On the board, write the words “Wall Street” and “Economy” and ask students to call out what they think of when they see those words. Create a word bubble with their responses ○ Explain that in the video they are about to watch, they will learn the connection between Wall Street and the economy 	Whiteboard
Watch Video [15 min]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute the handout to students 	Handout (se below)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before watching the video, review the key terms with students and read through the discussion questions • Watch the 9 minute video <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Video: The Street from We The Economy 	Video
Class Discussion [10 min]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk through the questions on the handout as a class 	Handout (see below)
Student Group Work [10 min]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Break students into their investment teams. Students will respond to the following question (at the bottom of the handout) by writing their answer in paragraph form <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How does Wall Street influence the economy? <p>NOTE: Submit student responses for a chance to win the monthly challenge and win prizes! Submissions due by Friday March 31 at 11:59pm</p>	Handout (see below) Submission Portal
Closing [2 min]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect student work and wrap up the lesson 	

*Lesson adapted from [We The Economy Lessons](#)

Investors Club

Video Handout: The Street

Key Terms

- **401k:** A retirement savings plan sponsored by an employer. It lets workers save and invest a piece of their paycheck before taxes are taken out.
 - **Recession:** A period of declining economic performance across an entire economy that lasts for several months. Recessions can be seen through decreases in trade, industrial activity, and employment.
 - **Risk:** The chance that an investment's actual gains will differ from an expected outcome or return. Risk includes the possibility of losing some or all of an original investment.
 - **Bernie Madoff:** Bernie Madoff was a money manager responsible for one of the largest financial frauds to date. His Ponzi scheme defrauded thousands of investors out of tens of billions of dollars. In 2009 Madoff was sentenced to 150 years in prison and forced to forfeit \$170 billion.
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Video Discussion

As you watch the video, consider the following questions. After watching we will discuss them as a class.

What is Wall Street? What is Main Street?
Why is Wall Street important/beneficial? How might it be harmful?
How does Wall Street impact individuals?
Why is risk important for a healthy economy?

Group Work

Discuss the following question with your Investment Team and write a response in paragraph form.

How does Wall Street influence the economy?