

Economics

Resource List for Grades 5 through 8

The Resources in this document can be used with the Economics Curriculum Packet for grades 5 through 8.

Books

Non-fiction and Biography

- Centsibility: The Planet Girl Guide to Money, 2008 by Stacey Roderick (Author), Ellen Warwick (Author).
Money management often gets left out of home or classroom discussions. This is a book that gives practical advice on a range of topics relating to money: tips on jobs, saving, debt, spending and budgeting, how to become a girl entrepreneur, what to scrimp on (and what not to), the hidden price of cheap, how to reconcile having less than some friends and why fundraising can make girls feel priceless!
- Driven: A Photobiography of Henry Ford, 2010 by Don Mitchell (Author), Lee Iacocca (Foreword).
A profile of the man whose invention revolutionized American life: the industrial visionary who changed the automobile from rich man's toy into affordable necessity. There are archival images from the Benson Ford Research Center with quotes from Ford's writings, speeches, and interviews to create a lively, comprehensive profile.
- Economic Literacy, Grades 6 - 12: A Simplified Method for Teaching Economic Concepts, 2008 by Schyrlet Cameron (Author), Janie Doss (Author), Suzanne Myers (Author).
This 96-page book presents difficult terms and concepts in a simplified format and helps students gain a better understanding of how the American economic system works. Activities allow students to explore ideas, practice research skills, access information through technology, and find the connection between economic theories and historical events.
- Kid Millionaire: Over 50 Exciting Business Ideas, 2016 by Matthew Eliot (Author).
Bring your entrepreneurial ideas to life! Learn the skills you need to do what you love and profit from your passions! Follow dozens of kid entrepreneurs and learn from business pros with Kid Millionaire!

- Mr. Sam: How Sam Walton Built Walmart and Became America's Richest Man, 2011 by Karen Blumenthal (Author).
Sam Walton grew up to become the founder of Wal-Mart, but he was born with practically nothing except a compulsive drive to win. His eventual empire started as nothing more than a dingy one-room general store. This is a well-researched account of the man behind the largest, and perhaps most controversial, store in the country.
- National Geographic Kids Everything Money: A wealth of facts, photos, and fun! 2013 by Kathy Furgang (Author).
All you need to know about money can be found in the pages of this accessible book. Kids will also learn about money around the world from a National Geographic expert, featured in "Explorer's Corners" throughout the book.
- The Story of Money, 2015 by Martin Jenkins (Author), Satoshi Kitamura (Illustrator).
In this fascinating and thought-provoking book, Martin Jenkins explores the history of money from its earliest beginnings to the electronic banking of today. Along the way we learn about hunter gatherers, barter, clay tablets, goat swapping, precious metals, hard bargains, IOUs, interest, coins, Romans, taxes, inflation, paper money, currencies and exchange rates

Fiction

- Billy Sure Kid Entrepreneur, 2017 by Luke Sharpe (Author) and Graham Ross (Illustrator).
Everyone is talking about Billy Sure, the twelve-year-old CEO of Sure Things, Inc. and genius inventor of the All Ball, a ball that turns into different sports balls with the push of a button. Now Billy wants to help other kids achieve their inventing dreams just like he has!
- Crenshaw, 2017 by Katherine Applegate (Author)
The tone is warm and funny, but it doesn't sugarcoat the effects of hunger and vulnerability. This novel adds a middle-grade perspective to the literature of imaginary friends and paints a convincing and compassionate portrait of a social class, the working poor, underrepresented in children's books.
- Lawn Boy, 2009 by Gary Paulsen (Author).
One day Lawn Boy was 12 years old and broke. Then his Grandma gave him Grandpa's old riding lawnmower. He set out to mow some lawns. More people wanted lawns mowed. And more and more. One client was Arnold the stockbroker, who offered to teach him about "the beauty of capitalism. Supply and Demand. Diversify labor. Distribute the wealth."
- Lemonade War 2007 by Jacqueline Davies.
Two siblings start a lemonade stand, but soon they are at war. There is really is no telling who will win, or even if their fight will ever end. This book has savvy marketing tips for making money at any business, definitions of business terms, charts, diagrams, and even math problems.

- The Toothpaste Millionaire, 2006 by Jean Merrill (Author), Jan Palmer (Illustrator). This fun story set in 1960s Cleveland, Ohio contains many real-life mathematical problems which the characters must solve to succeed in their budding business.

Magazines, Journals, Miscellaneous

- Kids Discover: Goods and Services
<https://www.kidsdiscover.com/shop/issues/kd1-goods-and-services/>
- Kids Discover: Money
<https://www.kidsdiscover.com/shop/issues/money-for-kids/>
- Kids Discover: Saving and Spending
<https://www.kidsdiscover.com/shop/issues/kd2-saving-spending/>

Online Links

- People's Pie: Federal budget game's challenge delivers powerful message
<https://www.icivics.org/games/peoples-pie>

Background information for the Educator

- Council for Economic Education K-12 Resources
<https://www.councilforeconed.org/k-12-resources/>
- Econ Ed at the St. Louis Fed
<https://www.stlouisfed.org/education/>