

## Economics

### Resource List for Grades 9 through 12

The Resources in this document can be used with the Economics Curriculum Packet for grades 9 through 12.

#### Books

##### Non-fiction and Biography

- The Economics Book: Big Ideas Simply Explained, 2018 by DK (Author).  
Easy-to-follow graphics, succinct quotations, and thoroughly accessible text throw light on the applications of economics, making them relatable through everyday examples and concerns.
- 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.
- A Little History of Economics (Little Histories), 2018 by Niall Kishtainy (Author).  
A great introduction to economics for beginners. This book is fun, and yet thorough in explaining what economists have contributed to our understanding of the world.
- Madam C.J. Walker: Entrepreneur (Black Americans of Achievement), 2008 by A'Lelia Bundles (Author).  
Madam C.J. Walker her way up from washing clothes to selling her own line of beauty products. Her hair-care products, made especially for black women, helped her become America's first black female millionaire. A philanthropist and an equal rights advocate, her success and support gave hope to others.
- Naked Economics: Undressing the Dismal Science, 2010 by Charles Wheelan (Author), Burton G. Malkiel (Foreword).  
A book about economics that won't put you to sleep. In our challenging economic climate, this perennial favorite of students and general readers is more than a good read, it's a necessary investment, with a sure rate of return. Demystifying buzzwords, laying bare the truths behind oft-quoted numbers, and answering questions, this book gives readers the tools they need to engage with pleasure and confidence in the deeply relevant, not so dismal science.

- New Ideas from Dead Economists: An Introduction to Modern Economic Thought, 2007 by Todd G. Buchholz (Author), Martin Feldstein (Foreword)  
This entertaining and accessible introduction to the great economic thinkers throughout history—Adam Smith, John Stuart Mill, Karl Marx, John Maynard Keynes, and more—shows how their ideas still apply to our modern world.
- The New Totally Awesome Business Book for Kids (And Their Parents), 2008 by Arthur Bochner (Author), Rose Bochner (Author), Adriane G. Berg (Foreword).  
This is a fact-filled classic, with cartoons, quizzes, games, and stories about starting up a business and making money from it.
- Steve Jobs: The Man Who Thought Different, 2012 by Karen Blumenthal.  
Steve Jobs was given up for adoption at birth, dropped out of college after one semester, and at the age of twenty, created Apple in his parents' garage with his friend Steve Wozniack. He became the ultimate CEO, and made the world want every product he touched.
- Why Didn't They Teach Me This in School? 99 Personal Money Management Principles to Live By, 2013 by Cary Siegel (Author).  
This book includes eight important lessons focusing on 99 principles that will quickly enhance any individual's money management acumen. Unlike many of the personal money management books out there, this book is a quick, easily digested read that focuses more on the qualitative side than the quantitative side of personal money management.

## Fiction

- The Jungle, 1906 by Upton Sinclair (Author).  
Sinclair wrote this novel to portray the harsh conditions and exploited lives of immigrants in the United States in Chicago and similar industrialized cities. However, most readers were more concerned with his exposure of health violations and unsanitary practices in the American meatpacking industry during the early 20th century, based on an investigation he did for a socialist newspaper.
- The Not-So-Great Depression, 2010 by Amy Goldman Koss (Author).  
The main character in this novel is a 9<sup>th</sup> grade girl who dreads her piano recital as much as gym and is finally starting to see the effects of the financial crisis she keeps hearing about. When her Mom gets laid off, her family must consider making some major changes by reevaluating her private schooling, her sister's college tuition, their big house, and even their presence in Los Angeles. While this background is serious, the story has humor and a bit of romance.
- Syrup, 2000 by Maxx Barry (Author).  
When the main character in this novel comes up with the idea for the hottest new soda ever, he's sure he'll retire the next rich, savvy marketing success story. But in the treacherous waters of corporate America there are no sure things--and suddenly he must save not only his idea but his yet-to-be-realized career.
- The Year Money Grew on Trees, 2011 by Aaron Hawkins (Author).  
The main character is a boy and he's got some siblings and cousins whom he recruits into helping him get an apple orchard ready for harvest. This is a fun read but there is a lot of

information about the economics of natural resources, the marketing of the apples, and the costs of all the inputs.

### **Magazines, Journals, Miscellaneous**

- Ben Bernanke's Blog: From the Brookings Institute  
<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/ben-bernanke/>
- Journal of Economic Perspectives (JEP): covering broad economics topics from the American Economic Association  
<https://www.aeaweb.org/resources/students/high-school-student-journal-access>

### **Online Links**

- Biz Kid\$: a great introduction to financial literacy, with linked activities as well as frequently updated interactive video clips and a blog.
- <http://bizkids.com/>  
Capital One Financial Literacy Program
- <https://www.capitalone.com/financial-education>  
Gapminder: Interactive animated charts explore global development trends  
<https://www.gapminder.org/>
- The 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/>