

Elementary School Track Session Descriptions & Presenters

Kidsize Personal Finance

Presented by: Bonnie Meszaros

Session will share activities and lessons designed to teach elementary students basic personal finance concepts including saving, savings goals and spending that align with the Delaware Financial Literacy Standards. Lessons will be provided.

History-nomics: Using Economics to Teach History.

Presented by: Catarina Chamlee

The interdisciplinary nature of social studies can make it challenging to navigate as educators, but it also allows for unique opportunities to make lessons more meaningful as we draw on topics from all subjects. Making economic connections to historical events will elevate your lessons and teach your students to think like historians AND economists! This workshop will target topics from 4th grade Delaware history standards to lay economic foundations for 5th grade economics.

Water Scarcity – The Economics of Water

Presented by: Scott Bacon

In this session we'll discuss how water is essential to a range of human activities. We'll examine examples of children's literature lessons that illustrate water scarcity across the seas. We'll practice using various allocation methods to distribute water. Finally, we participate in some hands-on activities around the scarcity of water that complement lessons students might complete in science.

Power Plants, PlayStations, and Prices – Oh My!

Presented by: Erin Yetter

This session will highlight key activities from two "Energy and Economics" lessons. These lessons are forthcoming in a brand-new elementary curriculum package from the Council for Economic Education. In the first lesson, attendees will explore the forms of energy used to make electricity and why that might cause the price, in kilowatt hours, of electricity to differ. In the second lesson, attendees will participate in a sequencing and matching activity to discover how electric power plants produce electricity using productive resources to be consumed by homes and businesses.

Middle School Track Session Descriptions & Presenters

Protections or Peril: Property Rights through Civics and Economics

Presented by: Scott Abbott

Do property rights protect us, or put us in peril? In this session, participants will engage in inquiry-based learning experiences to learn how the concept of property rights is approached from both a civic and economic lens. Participants will be able to experience portions of 7th grade civics model lessons on intellectual property, wills, home equity, and eminent domain in order to examine the nuances and intersections of property rights, with connections to civil rights and our government more broadly.

Equitable Economics: Inclusive Teaching for Diverse Learners

Presented by: Sarah Johnson and Amy Krzyzanowski

In this session, we will uncover potential stumbling blocks to student learning that may not be readily visible. Teachers will experience simple strategies that adapt existing economic lessons and activities to accommodate the needs of diverse learners. The techniques covered will foster the development of a more inclusive economics education experience for middle school students.

Careers in Economics Video Lessons

Presented by: Meaghan Vitale

Careers in Economics is a five-video series with accompanying lesson plans designed for the secondary classroom. In this session, you will learn about new videos and lesson plans that you can use to teach about what economists do, what you can do with an economics degree, and more! Participants will view the videos and learn about the active and collaborative learning components in each lesson. Attendees will also participate in lesson activities from “What Do Economists Do?” and “Who are Economists?”.

Teaching About Interest at the Middle School Level: How to introduce exponential growth at the pre-algebra level with M&M's!

Presented by: Mike Schmidt

The idea of compound interest can be a difficult one for students to conceptualize before learning about exponential growth in Algebra. This session will give a hands-on lesson to use with prealgebra students to introduce the idea of exponential growth using M&M's. Participants in this session will run through the lesson in its entirety and receive ideas and worksheets for possible extension lessons.

High School Track Session Descriptions & Presenters

Careers in Economics Video Lessons

Presented by: Meaghan Vitale

Careers in Economics is a five-video series with accompanying lesson plans designed for the secondary classroom. In this session, you will learn about new videos and lesson plans that you can use to teach about what economists do, what you can do with an economics degree, and more! Participants will view the videos and learn about the active and collaborative learning components in each lesson. Attendees will also participate in lesson activities from “What Do Economists Do?” and “Who are Economists?”.

Economic Foundations with Playdoh: A Hands-On Approach To Teaching Basic Economic Concepts

Presented by: Austin Green

Economics can be an intimidating subject for many, but it doesn't have to be! This session proposes a creative and hands-on approach to teaching six foundational economic concepts: scarcity, incentives, trade, economic systems, investment, and interdependence. By utilizing Playdoh as a medium, we aim to transform abstract ideas into tangible, moldable creations, fostering a deeper connection with the subject matter.

How Car Insurance Works: A Hands-On Probability Experiment

Presented by: Mike Schmidt

Participants will learn about the mathematics and economics of car insurance. Through a dice-based probability experiment, each participant will track how much money is paid to insure their car over 10 years, the likelihood of having an accident each year, and the possible insurance payouts. After completing the project, participants will be able to explain why insurance premiums are higher for some individuals and what factors contribute to those insurance premiums.

Reasonably Unreasonable: Behavioral Economics

Presented by: Sarah Johnson and Amy Krzyzanowski

Why is it so easy to blow your budget at Target or polish off a family-sized bag of Doritos? This workshop will delve into the world of behavioral economics to explore why humans might go against the grain of traditional economic theory and behave irrationally. Teachers will be provided with engaging lessons that include hands-on activities to help students better understand the psychology behind our sometimes faulty decision-making.