

STOCK UP!

Time: 40 minutes

(Students can track their stock purchases for up to 10 days. This could be an at-home assignment, or small amount of time given in class each day).

Materials: Computers (website – USAToday.com) or newspapers with stock reports, projector screen/Smart board, Math Journal (or work page), handout of [Student Worksheet \(stocks\)](#), any information needed to supplement lesson from [General Information for Teachers](#) page, and information about stocks, bonds, and profits [here](#). Extra work page involving graphs [here](#).

1. Gain student interest and introduce the Stock Market by asking the class where they like to shop, brands they enjoy purchasing or wearing, toys they like or have, etc.
2. After a short class discussion about products and companies, introduce the term “Stock Market” to the class and tell them they too could own a small part of their favorite toy, clothing, or shopping company by buying stock.
3. Buying stock is also known as investing money. People can earn a lot of money through stocks, but they can also lose all that they had to begin with.
4. Display an example on the projector using [USA Today's](#) market overview. Type in a company’s name in the top left of the page and show the graph of progress over a selected duration of time. (Ex. Disney) Allow the students to see how by purchasing stock there is always risk involved. The stock can go up, and that shows profits and money made, but stocks can also drop; in turn, losing money for the owner.



5. Complete activity as a class before allowing students to work independently. Inform the class you have \$1000.00 to spend in stocks. Take a few ideas of companies to purchase and decide how many shares to purchase. Complete the math problem as a group. (Ex. I am going to buy 3 shares of Disney. One share costs \$49.94. How do I determine how much the three shares will cost? Complete task in front of group, while talking and working aloud. How much money do I have left? Organize and complete equation for students to see.

6. Since we had to agree on certain stocks to buy as a class, you will now have your own chance to buy whatever stock you want! Hand out copy of Student Worksheet and allow students to select stock and quantities to “buy” if they were given \$1000 to invest. Students use their math journals & should show their work and reasoning as they spend their money.

Students can check their stock daily to see how they are doing. Students should be encouraged to find the difference between what they “paid” for the stock and the current standing each day. They can show their work in a math journal or separate worksheet.

Assessing Student work should be based on the completion of the assignment, and accuracy of the math problems performed.

Home Connection:

Invite students to talk to their family members about what they have learned involving the stock market.

Literature Connection (Classroom Library Ideas):

- *The Everything Kids' Money Book: Earn it, save it, and watch it grow!* By, Brette McWhorter Sember
- *Growing Money: A Complete Investing Guide for Kids* by Gail Karlitz and Debbie Honig
- *Money Sense for Kids* by Hollis Page Harman