

Ups and Downs of the Stock Market

An Educator's Reference Desk Lesson Plan

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Grade Level(s): 9, 10

Subject(s):

- Social Studies/Economics

Objective: To introduce students to the ups and downs of the stock market

Materials:

- newspapers
- Worksheet N (listed below)

To Start:

Ask students to define the word "market," as in a store or flea market-a place where people go to buy and sell things. Explain what the stock market is, describing briefly how it works.

Distribute Worksheet N, which asks students to record information about specific stocks and answer questions about each.

Follow-Up: Have each student "buy" a stock and follow its progress for a week or longer. Each day have students chart the stock's movement, up or down. At the end of the week, have students calculate whether they would have earned or lost money if they sold their stocks. How would they have felt if they had used real money to buy the stock? Ask the class to think about why and when people might buy stock. (When they want to invest portions of the money they have saved; when they can afford to do so; when they are in a position to leave sums of money invested for long periods of time; etc.)

Worksheet N

A. **Directions:** For this assignment, report on the current value of the following stocks from the New York Stock exchange.

Stock	Abbreviation	High	Low	Close	Net Change
Borden
Chrysler
Citicorp
Dart/Kraft
Delta Airlines
General Mills
Goodyear
Pan American
Polaroid
Revlon

B. **Directions:** Now using the information above, answer the following questions:

1. On the day you recorded the information, what stock was worth the most?

What was its closing price?

2. What stock was worth the least?

What was its high?

3. Which stock experienced the greatest gain?

How much did it gain?

4. What stock experienced the greatest loss and how much did it lose?

http://www.eduref.org/Virtual/Lessons/Social_Studies/Economics/ECO0013.html