

Area/Skill - Mathematics	Cognitive Skill Level - Application/Analysis	Correlation to Framework - 05.01/05.16	Lesson Number - 39
<p>Activity Title - The Stock Market</p> <p>Goal/Objective</p> <p>To figure percentage of gain and loss.</p> <p>Lesson Outline Introduction</p> <p>Discuss that many people invest in the stock market. They often use the newspaper to watch how different stocks fare on a given day. If the stock increases in value, a gain is reported. If the stock decreases in value, a loss is reported. Sometimes these gains and losses are reported by points, but they can also be reported in percentages.</p> <p>Activity</p> <p>Divide the class into small groups of four students. Provide copies of the business section of the newspaper. Tell each group that they \$50,000 to invest in the stock market. They will buy and sell stock each Friday for one month. At the end of each week, have students figure their net loss or gain and their percentage loss or gain and report the results to the class.</p> <p>Debriefing/Evaluation Activity</p> <p>Have students report their total loss or gain in the stock market to the class. Have each group include possible reasons for the gains or losses reported.</p>			<p>Materials/Texts/Realia/Handouts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newspapers • Paper and pencils • Calculators • Chart paper/board and markers
<p>Real-Life Connection</p> <p>Ask students if they have ever purchased stock or if they follow the stock market in the newspaper. Ask them why the stock market is important to the overall economy of the United States, as well as the global economy. If students are unaware of the importance of the stock market, they may wish to research what happened in 1929 in the United States.</p>			<p>Extension Activity</p> <p>Have students select one stock and follow its gains and losses for a week. Use the data to create a line graph and predict future trends. Debrief the activity by discussing whether or not a week is enough time to identify stock market trends.</p> <p>ESE/ESOL Accommodations</p> <p>Have students use highlighters information in the newspaper.</p> <p>Provide students with calculators and step-by-step directions to calculate percentage.</p> <p>Have students invest a “smaller” amount of money to simplify calculations.</p>

GED 2002 Teachers' Handbook of Lesson Plans

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Activity Title - The Stock Market

Introduction

Ask: Has anyone ever invested in the stock market? How did you keep track of your gains or losses? Do you ever look at the different graphs or articles in the newspaper regarding the stock market?

Say: Many people invest in the stock market. They often use the newspaper to watch how different stocks fare on a given day. If the stock increases in value, a gain is reported. If the stock decreases in value, a loss is reported. Sometimes these gains and losses are reported by points, but they can also be reported in percentages.

Main Activity

Say: Divide into small groups of about four people. Each of your groups is going to get a copy of the business section of the newspaper. Your assignment is to invest in the stock market and see how well you do. Each of your groups has \$50,000 to invest. You will purchase your initial stock and then each Friday, you will buy and sell any stock that you wish. At the end of each week, figure your group's net loss or gain and your percentage loss or gain and document the results. At the end of the month, you will figure your total net loss or gain and your percentage loss or gain and report the results to the class. You may wish to report the data via a short overview or chart you gains or losses. Also include in your report possible reasons for the gains or losses that you report.

Debriefing/Evaluation Activity

Have students report their total loss or gain in the stock market to the class, including possible reasons for the gains or losses reported.

Follow-up Lessons/Activities

Have students select one stock and follow its gains and losses for a week. Have them use the data to create a line graph and predict future trends for the stock. Will it continue to go up? Will it continue to go down? Is there enough long term data to predict a trend?

Have students research the importance of the stock market to the overall economy of the United States, as well as the global economy. If students are unaware of the importance of the stock market, you may wish to have them research what occurred to the stock market in 1929. Have students discuss whether or not this type of catastrophe could occur in today's market and the reasons why or why not.