

## Intro to Personal Finance

**Grade Level:** *High School*

**OR State Standard:** No direct standard is covered. This lesson is optional as an introduction to the coursework.

**Objective:** This lesson will help students understand why personal finance is important and give the instructor an idea of each student's comfort and knowledge of financial literacy.

**Procedure:**

1. Display PowerPoint for the students entering the room.
2. Leave it on the first slide while you have the students fill out the "Wonder" column of the "Know-Wonder-Learn (KWL)" worksheet. When someone mentions personal finance, what questions do they have? This is the place to write them. Encourage them to write anything having to do with finance down. It's a broad topic ranging from budgeting to investing to talking to family about money. All curiosities are welcome.
3. Have students fill out the "Know" column of the KWL worksheet. What do they feel like they have a solid grasp on finance?
4. Go to slide 2 of the PowerPoint and play the video.
5. After the video discuss any questions students have.
6. Go through each of the facts listed on the PowerPoint.
7. Discuss and answer questions as you go. For each slide be sure to ask each student how the information could impact them as an individual.
8. Have students check the agree or disagree box on the Introduction to Personal Finance worksheet. They will only fill out the before column today.
9. Then allow students time to use the box at the bottom of the page to set a financial goal. Goal setting is a large part of financial education and planning. Ask each student to think of a personal financial goal, write it in the box at the bottom of the page, and come up with a plan to make their goal a reality. When they finish the worksheet collect it so you can go back to it at the end of the unit.
10. To finish the lesson, ask students to return to the KWL worksheet and complete the "Learn" column if they learned anything new today. They can continue to add to this throughout the financial education lessons in this unit.

# Introduction to Personal Finance

## What is Personal Finance?

Personal finance refers to all the financial decisions an individual or family must make to earn, budget, save and spend money over time. Many high school students don't spend their time worrying about mortgages and investments, but you are now at the age where financial decision making is starting to impact your life.

Let's get a snapshot of where you think you are with your personal finance knowledge:

Before			After	
Agree	Disagree		Agree	Disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. I already have a strong working knowledge of personal finance.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. I think I have a lot to learn when it comes to managing my money.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Because I am a teenager, what I do now with my money will have little effect on my financial future.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. The adults in my life have taught me about money management.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Most Americans know how to achieve financial security when they retire.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Setting financial goals can help you achieve more with your money. Use the space below to think about one specific financial goal you have and how you will achieve it.**

Can you think of a financial goal you have at this moment? Is this a long-term or short-term goal?  
Describe how you plan to achieve this goal.

Goal \_\_\_\_\_

Long-term? Short-term? \_\_\_\_\_

How will you achieve your goal? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_