



Activity Tips
Adult Section – Unit 5

ACTIVITY

Investing

OVERVIEW

In this activity, participants move their financial plan from the concept of “savings” to the next level – Investing. Participants will first observe Velma and Jose as they make a decision about various investment options and then apply that information to their own financial lives.

OBJECTIVES

Participants in this activity will:

- Understand the concept of investing and the difference between saving and investing.
- Learn about investment options and characteristics of each.
- Recognize critical questions to ask before making investments.

BEFORE
THE ACTIVITY

- Because investing might seem abstract to many participants, gather various types of support resources to reinforce the discussion, such as samples of bonds, stocks, and collectibles; newspaper and magazine investment reports - anything that will help to better explain some of the abstract investment options.
- This activity covers investment options. To lay the groundwork for a better understanding of the various terms, review key vocabulary terms for the activity.

DURING THE
ACTIVITY

- When covering the five questions that individuals should ask whenever making an investment, be sure to encourage discussion to make sure everyone understands the concepts of safety, returns, risk, accessibility, and diversity. Identify opportunities to help the participants make personal connections to these abstract concepts.
- As each investment option is presented, have each participant answer the follow-up questions in the pop-up boxes on an individual basis; then, encourage sharing during the discussion.
- Depending on the participants and available time, consider selecting an investment that the class could track over a period of weeks to illustrate potential profit and loss.

AFTER
THE ACTIVITY

- Encourage participants to review the activity on a more personal level, taking the time to apply it to their personal financial lives.
- Remind participants that investing for success is different than “get-rich-quick” schemes often seen in the media.

TIPS FOR
SUCCESS

Investments always carry an element of risk. Be sure to stress that investments should not be made with money budgeted for day-to-day expenses but rather, with separate savings that has been set aside for such purposes.