

WEBSITES FOR SOCIAL STUDIES EDUCATORS: ECONOMICS*

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* The websites in this document have been compiled by Warren Solomon, Clinical Associate, College of Education of the University of Missouri-Columbia, formerly Social Studies Curriculum Consultant from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Thanks to many people who helped in this effort including several of the economic educators from the Missouri Council on Economic Education's Centers for Economic Education. Although the list may seem long, it is just the tip of the iceberg. A caution: It is possible that some of the web sites no longer exist or that their addresses have changed.

Teachers should not only use documents like this one as a resource, they should not forget to use the services of librarian-media specialists in their schools.

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Organizations

National Council on Economic Education: These websites of the National Council on Economic Education, where one may find all sorts of resources, including lessons: <http://www.ncee.net/> and <http://www.econedlink.org/>.

Missouri Council on Economic Education (MCEE): This website has links to Missouri resources, activities, and to the various MCEE Centers for Economic Education. The MCEE website is a good place to start looking at economic education resources: <http://iml.umkc.edu/mcee/>

The MCEE Centers for Economic Education, the first four of which have very teacher-friendly, helpful websites with good links, are listed below:

- **Kansas City:** University of Missouri-Kansas City Center for Economic Education: <http://education.umkc.edu/econed/index.htm>
- **St. Louis:** Center for Entrepreneurship and Economic Education, University of Missouri-St. Louis: <http://www.umsl.edu/~econed/>
- **Northwest Missouri:** Operation Outreach: <http://www.operationoutreach-econed.org/>
- **West Central Missouri:** Center for Economic Education, Central Missouri State University: <http://www.cmsu.edu/x4263.xml>
- **Southwest Missouri:** Southwest Missouri Center for Economic Education (Drury College): <http://cas.umkc.edu/mcee/centers.html#Southwest%20Missouri%20Center%20for%20Economic%20Education>
- **Central Missouri:** University of Missouri-Columbia Center for Economic Education: <http://web.missouri.edu/~cee/>

Foundation for Teaching Economics: This website has sections for teachers and students. The section for teachers includes National Economics Standards and lesson plans on a variety of economics topics. The website may be found at this address: <http://www.fte.org/>

Federal Reserve Bank: This highly useful website offers much for teachers pertaining to interactive lessons, money, personal finance, the Federal Reserve Bank Banking System, and links to many economics-related websites: <http://www.FederalReserveEducation.org>.

Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis: A website for teachers from the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, with information for teachers and others about publications, about the Fed, and about St. Louis Fed-sponsored conferences for elementary and secondary teachers: <http://www.stls.frb.org/education/>

Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City: The Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City has a very useful website for teachers (<http://www.federalreserveeducation.org/FRED/>), as well as for the general public (<http://www.kc.frb.org/home/subwebs.cfm?subWeb=4>). Its home page is <http://www.kansascityfed.org/>.

Missouri Department of Economic Development: A website on the economics of Missouri with Missouri statistics from the Research and Planning Section of the Missouri Department of Economic Development: <http://www.missourieconomy.org/>.

Missouri University's Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED): This website, very appropriate for sociology and economics classes, collects statistics on Missouri related to the census, the state of the state (Missouri), county facts, the status of children, and many other topics, often presented in the form of maps: <http://www.oseda.missouri.edu/>.

University of Nebraska-Omaha's Center for Economic Education: This user-friendly website may be used to find economics standards and lessons: <http://ecedweb.unomaha.edu/>

General Economics Websites

University of Nebraska-Omaha: This website has links of all sorts, annotated and nicely organized for teachers: <http://ecedweb.unomaha.edu/econinfo.htm>.¹

NewsHour Extra: This website from PBS provides resources and lesson plans for teachers of mathematics and economics: <http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/teachers/math/>

Resources for Economics on the Internet: A website pertaining to economics with all sorts of links: <http://rfe.org/>.

Resources for Economic Education from the Federal Reserve Bank: The Federal Reserve unveiled this online website for high school and college students, as well as for teachers and consumers, to promote economic education and financial literacy. Among the activities available at the site, users will be able to be a bank examiner for a day or assume the role of Fed Chairman when he and his colleagues set interest rates. The site also has links to other useful websites for economic education: <http://www.federalreserveeducation.org/FRED/>

Resources for Economic Education from the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City: This website provides education resources for the general public, for teachers, and for students: <http://www.kc.frb.org/home/subwebs.cfm?subWeb=10>

Frontline: PBS Frontline explores many issues of relevance to citizens. Go to this website to find business- and economics-related issues investigated on Frontline broadcasts, where teachers may find program transcripts, online programs, lesson plans and other teaching materials: <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/programs/categories/b.html>.

Glossary of Economic Terms: The National Council on Economic Education has developed a glossary of economic terms, which teachers and students would probably find to be very helpful: <http://my.econedlink.org/glossary.php>.

Lessons

EconEdLink (A tool to find many lessons for all levels): This website from the National Council on Economic Education provides many activities for kindergarten through grade 12 related to economics standards of the different states (including Missouri) and to National Economics Standards: <http://my.econedlink.org/standards/>

To Buy vs. Renting a House: The following activity was produced for the website of the National Council on Economic Education: <http://www.econedlink.org/lessons/index.cfm?lesson=MM162&page=teacher>.

Other lessons from the National Council on Economic Education and EconEdLink: Other lessons from NCEE and EconEdLink may be found at these websites: <http://www.ncee.net/resources/lessons.php> and <http://www.econedlink.org/lessons/>.

Specific Topics

Consumer and Personal Finance

Missouri Personal Finance Competencies: This website from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education lists competencies to be taught in newly required personal finance courses: http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/Personal_Finance_Competencies.pdf.

¹ I cannot emphasize enough how useful this website is for teachers. Kim Sosin at the University of Nebraska-Omaha has done an excellent job of pulling together a list of economics websites much longer than the list in this publication. I urge teachers to examine the UNO website.
Warren Solomon

National Financial Education Clearinghouse: This website provides links to many resources useful for teaching in the domain of financial education:
<http://www.nefe.org/amexeconfund/index.html>

Consumer Economics (General): This website from the U.S. Government's Federal Citizen Information Center (FCIC) has all sorts of links for economics classes and classes in other areas of social studies: <http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov/>.

Consumer Economics for Elementary Students (*Wise Pockets World*): This website from the UM-St. Louis Center for Entrepreneurship and Economic Education has downloadable lessons for teachers. Each lesson uses a children's trade book to teach personal finance and economic concepts. The site includes stories with downloadable stories with activities for kids and an informational site for parents. The site is as follows: <http://www.wisepockets.com/>

Consumer Economics (Insurance): These websites from the Missouri Department of Insurance have been designed to help consumers and teens with questions they have (or should have) about different types of insurance: <http://insurance.mo.gov/consumer/index.htm> and <http://insurance.mo.gov/consumer/teens/index.htm>.

Consumer Economics (Financial Education): This website from Merrill Lynch, developed in 1999, has downloadable activity sheets to use to help students study such topics as managing time, money, and priorities; exploring life/career skills and entrepreneurship; understanding how the stock market works and examining investment options; and establishing good credit and saving for college: <http://philanthropy.ml.com/ipo/resources/>

Consumer Economics (Marketing, Advertising, and Public Relations): The NCSS newsletter *The Social Studies Professional* indicates that the documentary—*The Persuaders*—to which this website is the teachers guide might also be called “Media Literacy 101”:
<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/persuaders/>.

Consumer Economics (Missouri Families Website): Missouri Families is an e-newsletter from the Extension Section of the University of Missouri. Several articles at its website would relate to consumer economics: <http://missourifamilies.org/>

Consumer Economics (Scams): This website, called “Too Good to Be True.Com,” addresses the problem of consumer fraud: <http://www.lookstoogoodtobetrue.com/>.

Consumer Economics (Saving and Investing): The high school teachers' guide *The Basics of Saving and Investing: Investor Education 2020* guide, which is divided into four units (“Getting Started”, “Introduction to Financial Markets,” “Making a Financial/Investment Plan,” and “Investment Fraud”), is an investor education and protection teaching guide:
<http://www.investorprotection.org/basics/>.

Entrepreneurship

The Artists as Entrepreneur: This website provides lesson plans for teachers to download. These lessons deal with a variety of content related to starting and operating a business:
<http://www.umsl.edu/~econed/artist.htm>

Economic Analysis

Economic Analysis: Paul Krugman, Princeton Economics Professor and frequent writer for the New York *Times*, has several websites that analyze the economic situation of the United States, Japan, and the world from a liberal economics perspective. Here are the ones I have:
<http://www.wws.princeton.edu/~pkrugman/>, <http://web.mit.edu/krugman/www/>, and <http://www.pkarchive.org/>.

Issues

Issue of Hunger: A website from Freedom from Hunger, a charitable organization, which tries to fight problems of hunger by providing small business loans to women with children in rural areas. The site has stories of people helped to help themselves, stories of how they are helped, and

pictures of children, families, and homes in rural areas of developing countries:
<http://www.freedomfromhunger.org>. This site also is relevant to Geography.

Issue of Poverty: A moving website addressing poverty issues from the United States Council of Catholic Bishops: <http://www.nccbuscc.org/cchd/povertyusa/tour2.htm>

Issue of Poverty: The Institute for Research on Poverty of the University of Wisconsin-Madison has a website with lots of links to various categories related to the topic of poverty:
<http://www.irp.wisc.edu/>.

Issue of Health Care: This PBS Frontline program focuses on the U.S. health care system with contrasts to the health care systems of other countries:
<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/sickaroundtheworld/>

Religion and Ethics: PBS has a weekly program called "Religion and Ethics Weekly." This website presents religious/ethical issues that come up weekly and daily and also provides lesson plans for teachers to consider using. Occasionally, some of the issues on this program deal with economic matters. The website is as follows:
<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/index.html>

Varied Issues: This website from the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston enables readers to download the publication *The Ledger*, each issue of which discusses a specific economic issue or topic such as economic growth, gross domestic product, or poverty:
<http://www.bos.frb.org/education/ledger/ledger.htm>

Money

Money: A website about the U.S. Mint with information of interest to kids and teachers:
http://www.usmint.gov/about_the_mint/

Money: The Euro Makes its Debut: This lesson developed for the EconEdLink website of the National Council on Economic Education explores the impact of having a centralized monetary system for Europe: <http://www.econedlink.org/lessons/index.cfm?lesson=EM135&page=teacher>.

Money Matters for Young People and Parents: This website, called "Kids Money," has in it lots of ideas for children and parents pertaining to money, how children can earn it, and how it might be spent: <http://www.kidsmoney.org>.

Money Matters for Young People and Parents: This website, called "Youngbiz.com," has in it ideas for teenagers pertaining to business and the stock market and how they can earn money in them: <http://www.youngbiz.com>.

National Budget

Congressional Budget Office: This website from the Congressional Budget Office includes CBO news, papers on various current topics, the budget outlook, a glossary of budget and economic terms, and many other useful items of information: <http://www.cbo.gov/>.

National Budget Simulation Game: A website with two national budget simulation games from UC-Berkeley's Center for Community Economic Research: <http://www.budgetsim.org/nbs/>

Stock Market

Stock Market and Investment: This website from the New York Stock Exchange provides much information for middle and secondary students about the stock market:
<http://www.nyse.com/about/education/1098034584990.html>.