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Learning Objectives

Students will be able to

- Explore important questions about financial health and decision-making.
- Compare starting pay for different careers based on the path they choose after high school
- Estimate potential student loan debt and how it will impact their future budget
- Build their first budget once starting their career
- Establish saving programs for financial goals and see their goal timeline for achieving them
- Understand how to build retirement savings through regular saving and compound growth
- Review a personal profile showing the impact of their decisions on their long-term financial success.
- Answer reflection questions about what they learned (small group or classroom discussion)

Key Takeaways

- Build awareness about how the decisions you make today will impact your financial future
- Understand the real cost of living independently and the impact of student loan debt
- Simulate how to live within your means and build achievable savings goals
- Students complete a survey to evaluate their increase in knowledge and how they may change their financial behaviors in the future

Approximate Time

- Lesson length: 90 mins
- Educators have discretion to build in additional learning activities using Money Path

Alignment to Wisconsin's Academic and Career Planning Components

- Exploration Activities
 - ◆ Setting Career Goals
 - ◆ Career Pathway Exploration
- Career Planning Activities
 - ◆ Investigate Post – Secondary Options
 - ◆ Personal Financial Literacy Concepts
 - ◆ Financial Plan
 - ◆ Choosing a Post – Secondary Option
 - ◆ Decision Making Reflection
- Management Activities
 - ◆ Modify Personal Goals as Necessary
 - ◆ Modify Career Goals as Necessary
 - ◆ Update Regularly/Quarterly

Alignment to Wisconsin's Model Academic Standards For Personal Financial Literacy

- A.1 Understand how career choice, education, skills, entrepreneurship, and economic conditions affect income.
- A.12.1.1 Evaluate and demonstrate how career choices, education choices, skills, entrepreneurship, and economic conditions affect income.
- A.3 Explain how income affects lifestyle choices and spending decisions.
- A.12.3.1 Develop a plan to designate how income affects decisions to purchase and spend.
 - A.12.3.2 Understand and display the relationship of career–income–lifestyle.
 - A.12.4.1 Demonstrate how taxes can change or affect income and lifestyle.
- B.1 Demonstrate ability to use money management skills and strategies.
- B.12.1.1 Apply various money management strategies to authentic situations and predict results over time.
 - B.12.1.2 Analyze and compare income and spending plans as affected by age, needs, and resources.
 - B.12.3.1 Compare various strategies for securing funding for a future event.
 - B.12.3.2 Correlate long-range personal goals with financial needs and resources.
- D.1 Apply strategies for creating wealth/building assets.
- D.12.1.1 Evaluate the effect of “compounding” earned interest.
 - D.12.1.4 Assess factors that influence financial planning (age, income, liabilities, assets, goals, family size, risk tolerance, etc.).
- D.5 Demonstrate ability to use decision-making processes in making financial decisions related to planning, saving, and investing.
- D.12.5.1 Develop and justify the best investment and/or savings options to achieve particular goals.

Resources

	Resources	Lesson Guidance	Approx Time
0	Lesson Intro:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduce SecureFutures and the Money Path lesson and software. Share that SecureFutures specializes in providing financial education tools and resources for teens and young adults. 2. Share: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Money Path is simulation based software that ties together both the college and career readiness plan you have been creating and your personal financial future. • Money Path helps students paint a picture of the decisions they will be making about their post high school path and how those decisions can impact their financial future. • You will have unlimited free access to the software 	5 mins
1	Optional Starter Activity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ASK: What does money mean to you? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have students write a one word answer • Get 4-5 responses and ask students to expand on their answers. • Key point: Whether they answered independence or stress, planning your money and financial future will help you attain financial independence and avoid financial stress. 2. ASK: What financial goals will you have after you start your career and are living independently? (e.g. buy a car and house, save for vacations, build an emergency fund) 3. What will impact your ability to achieve those goals? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Income b. Debt c. Spending and saving decisions 4. Money Path App lesson objectives: The Money Path App will provide you with an opportunity to explore the options you are considering after high school and how they could impact your financial future. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. You will choose your path after high school and then build a personal career and financial plan for your future. You will choose: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Job and pay ii. College to attend if you are going to college iii. Estimate how you will pay for college and see how much student loan debt you could end up with iv. Create your first budget once you start your career v. See what you can afford to buy based on how much you decide to save in your budget vi. Get your own personal profile of the decisions you made in the Money Path App <p>You should be able to present your plan for your future to someone and share what you're excited about and what you</p>	10 mins

		are worried about.	
2	Money Path Access: https://moneypathapp.org/	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Instruct students to go the following URL to self - register. 2. Recommended browser is Chrome or Safari. DO NOT use Internet Explorer. 	2 mins
3	Student Registration: Student Workbook	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Display and have students refer to page 2 of their student workbook and follow the instructions to register their account. 2. Provide students with the class code you received from SecureFutures for that specific class. 3. Recommend students use their personal email address so they won't have to change it after they graduate. 	5 mins
4	Software Demo: Note: The link below will take you to the Money Path Instructor Notes. While these were created to assist our volunteers who deliver the lesson in the classroom, you too can utilize the Navigation Screens and tips beginning on page 8. Money Path Instructor Notes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make sure everyone is at the "Your Future Your Way" screen and have them click on "Get Started" to enter the app. 2. Complete a brief demo of the app. (5 mins max! Have a scenario you are familiar with built in the app.) 3. Be sure to review the instructions and tips in the "Navigation" section of this workbook to help with your delivery of key concepts and to complete an efficient demo. 4. Most screens are very intuitive. Key screens to review are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Paying for School" • "Future Monthly Budget" Be sure to point out the calculators on each of these screens. 	5 mins
5	Reflection Questions	<p>Before turning students loose, have them refer to the reflection questions in their workbook. After they complete a plan in Money Path have them complete the reflection questions independently or in a small group.</p> <p>Use the reflection questions to drive a discussion/feedback session and to identify topics requiring more teaching and discussion.</p>	5 mins
6	Students complete the Money Path simulation and build their personal plan	<p>Students work independently to build their personal plan.</p> <p>Walk the room and check - in and ask questions as appropriate.</p>	25 mins
7	Reflection Questions Debrief	Use the reflection questions to generate discussion regarding what the students learned through completing their Money Path simulation.	20 mins
8	Survey and Evaluation Money Path Survey/Evaluation	<p>Pass out the survey/evaluation and ask students to complete it. Review the results to evaluate their increase in knowledge and how they may change their financial behaviors in the future because of completing the lesson and simulation.</p> <p>Return the surveys to SecureFutures: SecureFutures 710 N. Plankinton Ave. #1400 Milwaukee, WI 53203</p>	10 mins
9	Provide Feedback to SecureFutures	Contact the program manager who you have been working with and provide feedback regarding the effectiveness of the lesson and how the students responded to the software. Provide feedback regarding the app and share any best practices you feel other teachers could benefit from.	