

Stock Market Challenge

Learning Opportunities: 14-19 Curriculum

Functional Skills: Levels 1 & 2

Subjects	Application of skill in Stock Market Challenge
ICT	<p>Using ICT systems to set up and play the game and to research decisions.</p> <p>Using ICT systems post-game to present and communicate information in text, tables, numbers and records.</p> <p>Bringing together information to suit content and purpose i.e. merging conclusions from several news sources in the game to reach a decision.</p> <p>Research fund management companies or stockbrokers online and identify their investment strategies, fees and charges.</p>
Maths	<p>Understanding and managing money, making sound economic decisions, learning about investments, reasoning with numbers, communicating mathematical information.</p> <p>Manage a portfolio of shares, calculating profit and loss, analysing percentage gains and losses, analysing game data.</p> <p>Presenting data in graph form post-game. For example, tracking the variation of a share price or of the entire portfolio over the course of a trading day, and then using this information to outline a strategy for the next trading day.</p> <p>Reporting to an imaginary investor on the performance of the fund managed during the week's trading. Constructing a financial statement that will include mathematical information e.g. the amount invested each day, the profit/loss on each day's trading, the percentage gains/losses each trading day and/or week.</p>
English	<p>Developing communication skills and literacy, and expressing ideas and views effectively. Organising a pre-trading team meeting to set out an investment strategy e.g. agreeing on the 'fundamentals' that will be at the core of the team's strategy e.g. never invest more than 50% of available funds.</p> <p>Reading and listening to the game's news content, exercising comprehension skills, communicating with the team, expressing ideas.</p> <p>Writing a document setting out the team's investment strategy, including evidence of having researched the listed companies. Producing a short synopsis of what the companies do and their immediate prospects in the game.</p> <p>Constructing a narrative post-game to explain the team's investment strategy and, using the mathematical data, producing a financial document. Finding out what real fund managers charge their clients and including these fees and expenses in the statement.</p>

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Personal, Learning & Thinking Skills

Skill	When learners:	Application of skill in Stock Market Challenge
Independent enquirers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 Identify questions to answer and problems to resolve. 1.2 Plan and carry out research, appreciating the consequences of decisions. 1.3 Explore issues, events or problems from different perspectives. 1.4 Analyse and evaluate information, judging its relevance and value. 1.5 Consider the influence of circumstances, beliefs and feelings on decisions and events. 1.6 Support conclusions, using reasoned arguments and evidence. 	<p>Planning an investment strategy by analysing and evaluating the available information, then judging its relevance and value to a chosen course of action.</p> <p>Questioning other team members' decision processes and suggesting alternatives, particularly in regard to financial management.</p>
Creative thinkers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1 Generate ideas and explore possibilities. 2.2 Ask questions to extend their thinking. 2.3 Connect their own and others' ideas and experiences in inventive ways. 2.4 Question their own and others' assumptions. 2.5 Try out alternatives or new solutions and follow ideas through. 2.6 Adapt ideas as circumstances change. 	<p>The game produces sudden market movements and unexpected news events that have an impact on investments. Individuals and teams have an opportunity to react and adapt as circumstances change.</p>
Reflective learners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1 Assess themselves and others, identifying opportunities and achievements. 3.2 Set goals with success criteria for their development and work. 3.3 Review progress, acting on the outcomes. 3.4 Invite feedback and deal positively with praise, setbacks and criticism. 3.5 Evaluating experiences and learning to inform future progress. 3.6 Communicate learning in relevant ways for different audiences. 	<p>The resource provides an evaluation framework allowing learners to assess their experience, communicate their learning to other colleagues and evaluate their development.</p>

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Personal, Learning & Thinking Skills (cont.)

Skill	When learners:	Application of skill in Stock Market Challenge
Team workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4.1 Collaborate with others to work towards common goals. 4.2 Reach agreements, managing discussions to achieve results. 4.3 Adapt behaviour to suit different roles and situations, including leadership roles. 4.4 Show fairness and consideration to others. 4.5 Take responsibility, showing confidence in themselves and their contribution. 4.6 Provide constructive support and feedback to others. 	<p>Stock Market Challenge fulfils all the outcomes for team working. Through playing the game learners will have to reach agreements, manage discussions and adapt behaviours to suit different roles and situations as either team leader or team member.</p>
Self-managers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.1 Seek out challenges or new responsibilities and show flexibility when priorities change. 5.2 Work towards goals, showing initiative, commitment and perseverance. 5.3 Organise time and resources, prioritising actions. 5.4 Anticipate, take and manage risks. 5.5 Deal with competing pressures, including personal and work-related demands. 5.6 Respond positively to change, seeking advice and support when needed. 5.7 Manage their emotions, and build and maintain relationships. 	<p>The game can be set up so that learners can play as individuals. This creates a more pressurised learning environment within which they will have opportunity to display the key components of this skill area.</p>
Effective participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6.1 Discuss issues of concern, seeking resolution where needed. 6.2 Present a persuasive case for action. 6.3 Propose practical ways forward, breaking these down into manageable steps. 6.4 Identify improvements that would benefit others as well as themselves. 6.5 Try to influence others, negotiating and balancing diverse views to reach workable solutions. 6.6 Act as an advocate for views and beliefs that may differ from their own. 	<p>Stock Market Challenge is a teamwork task where participants can be asked to create and present their game strategy and key objectives as a business plan, thereby using many of the collaborative skills.</p>