

Creating a savings inspiration board

Students identify some things they'd like to save for and create an inspiration board (a collage of images, words, and/or phrases) to help them stay motivated to save.

Learning goals

Big idea

Saving money can help you achieve financial well-being.

Essential questions

- What do I feel is worth saving for?
- How can I stay motivated to save money?

Objectives

- Create an inspiration board that captures things worth saving money for
- Begin to plan for spending and savings decisions that are aligned with personal goals and values

What students will do

- Find or create images that represent things they'd like to save for.
- Create a collage of images and/or words that represent specific things they'd like to have in the future.
- Share their inspiration boards with the class.

KEY INFORMATION

Building block:

-  Executive Function
-  Financial habits and norms

Grade level: High school (9-12)

Age range: 13-19

Topic: Save and invest (Saving for long-term goals)

School subject: CTE (Career and technical education), Fine arts and performing arts

Teaching strategy: Personalized instruction, Direct instruction

Bloom's Taxonomy level: Create

Activity duration: 45-60 minutes

STANDARDS

Council for Economic Education
Standard III. Saving

Jump\$tart Coalition
Spending and saving - Standard 1

Preparing for this activity

- While it's not necessary, completing the ["Reflecting on what's worth saving for"](#) or ["Writing a personal savings statement"](#) activities may make this one more meaningful.
- Print copies of all student materials for each student, or prepare for students to access them electronically.

What you'll need

THIS TEACHER GUIDE

- [Creating a savings inspiration board \(guide\)](#)
[cfpb_building_block_activities_creating-savings-inspiration-board_guide.pdf](#)

STUDENT MATERIALS

- [Creating a savings inspiration board \(worksheet\)](#)
[cfpb_building_block_activities_creating-savings-inspiration-board_worksheet.pdf](#)
- Magazines or access to the Internet and printers for finding images, art supplies, and paper

Exploring key financial concepts

Saving money is a strategy for achieving financial goals that is appropriate for people of all ages. To stay motivated to save money, it helps to have a clear idea of what is worth saving for. Saving is a personal experience. Different people are motivated to save for different things. It helps to visualize what's important to you, so you can make spending and savings decisions that are aligned with your personal goals and values.

An inspiration board is usually a collage of images, words, and/or phrases that help motivate you by presenting you with a visual reminder of specific goals you have or a vision for where you want to be in the future. By creating a savings inspiration board, you can create a visual representation of things that you can't afford right now but would like to have or purchase in the future.

Teaching this activity

TIP

Whole-class introduction

- Distribute the “Creating a savings inspiration board” worksheet.
- Be sure students understand key vocabulary:
 - **Long-term goals:** Goals that can take more than five years to achieve.
 - **Savings:** Money you have set aside in a secure place, such as in a bank account, that you can use for future emergencies or to make specific purchases.
 - **Short-term goals:** Goals that can take a short time, or up to five years, to reach.
- Explain to students that a savings inspiration board is a collage of images, words, and/or phrases that serves as a visual representation of things that they can’t afford right now but would like to have or buy in the future.
- Tell them that the purpose of an inspiration board is to help keep them motivated to work toward their savings goals.

Visit CFPB’s financial education glossary at consumerfinance.gov/financial-education-glossary/.

Individual work

- Ask students to spend no more than five minutes listing a few specific things they’d like to have one day that they can’t afford right now.
 - Explain that these are things they want to save money for.
 - Advise them to use the worksheet to categorize these items as short-term or long-term goals.
- Students will search for images, words, or phrases in magazines or on the Internet that represent things they want to save for. They can also create their own artwork.
- Students will use the images, words, or phrases to create their savings inspiration board.

Wrap-up

Students can share their savings inspiration boards with their classmates.

Suggested next steps

Consider searching for other CFPB activities that address the topics of save and invest, such as choosing how to save, saving for long-term goals, and saving for short-term goals.

Measuring student learning

Keep in mind that students' answers may vary, as there may not be only one right answer. The important thing is for students to have a reasonable justification for their answers.