



BUILDING FUTURES IN MANITOBA

TEACHING UNIT

General Topic:	Economic Citizenship
Unit Title:	Building the Future
Grade Level:	Grade 9
Recommended Curriculum Area:	Social Studies
Other Relevant Curriculum Area(s):	Language Arts



The Building Futures Project is sponsored across Canada by Investors Group. CFEÉ extends our appreciation to Investors Group for their generous support.

Possible Curriculum Integration Points

Grade 9 Social Studies: Recommended

Outcomes:

- KL-025 Identify on a world map countries in which events of global significance are taking place.
- KG-035 Evaluate Canadian perspectives regarding current global issues.
- KG-036 Give examples of decisions that reflect the responsibilities of global citizenship.
- KG-034 Give examples of Canada's connections with other nations.
- KE-048 Describe characteristics of Canada as an industrialized nation.
- KE-049 Evaluate implications of living in a consumer-based economy.
- KE-051 Analyze possible consequences of their consumer choices.
- VE-017 Be willing to consider the impact of their consumer choices.

Other Relevant Curriculum Area(s)

Grade 9 Language Arts

Outcomes:

Express Ideas (1.1.1)

- Question and reflect on personal responses, predictions, and interpretations; apply personal viewpoints to diverse situations or circumstances.

Develop Understanding (1.2.1)

- Reflect on new understanding in relation to prior knowledge and identify gaps in personal knowledge.

Explain Opinions (1.2.2)

- Review and refine personal viewpoints through reflection, feedback, and self-assessment.

Combine Ideas (1.2.3)

- Structure and restructure ideas and information to extend current understanding and to broaden personal perspectives of the world.

Extend Understanding (1.2.4)

- Consider diverse opinions, explore ambiguities, and assess whether new information clarifies understanding.

Set Goals (1.1.5)

- Reflect on attainment of personal goals for effective language learning and use.

Consider Others' Ideas (1.1.2)

- Acknowledge the value of others' ideas and opinions in exploring and extending personal interpretations and viewpoints.

Experiment with Language and Form (1.1.3)

- Use memorable language effectively and experiment with different persona

Develop Understanding (1.2.1)

- Reflect on new understanding in relation to prior knowledge and identify gaps in personal knowledge.

Explain Opinions (1.2.2)

- Review and refine personal viewpoints through reflection, feedback, and self-assessment.

Inquiry (3.1.3)

- Generate and access ideas in a group and use a variety of methods to focus and clarify inquiry or research topic.

Create and Follow a Plan (3.1.4)

- Prepare and use a plan to access, gather, and evaluate information and ideas from a variety of human, print, and electronic sources.

Organize Information (3.3.1)

- Organize information and ideas by developing and selecting appropriate categories and organizational structures.

Make Sense of Information (3.2.5)

- Identify a variety of factors that affect meaning; scan to locate specific information quickly; summarize, report, and record main ideas of extended oral, visual, and written texts [including books].

Education For Sustainable Development Initiative

- To acquire the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values necessary to shape a sustainable future

Relevant Economic Outcomes

- Possible goals for Canada's economy
- How various factors can affect growth, employment, incomes, and quality of life in the economy
- How the decisions and actions of individuals, organizations, business, and governments can affect productivity, innovation, employment, inflation, incomes, and growth in the economy as well as the environment
- Factors that can affect the distribution of income
- How government policies and actions can affect the distribution of income
- Compare environmental conditions, and efforts to improve the environment, in various countries
- Different views on the role of government in the economy

Background Information

Students need to understand the factors that affect Canada's ability to achieve its economic goals. They should be able to make informed assessments and judgements of government actions and political initiatives. By identifying the different roles of government the students, among other things, will understand how taxes are used to provide services. Students must be aware of how economic activity may be potentially helpful or harmful to the environment. This will help them to be knowledgeable, responsible citizens.

Overview of the Unit

In groups, the students will view and discuss several cartoons that represent Canada's economic goals. They will be asked to think about which goals are most important in today's economy. The students will make a mind map listing the factors that affect how much money a person makes and present it to the class. They will identify world-wide environmental concerns. The last assignment has the students researching and making a report about how various countries are addressing environmental concerns.

Estimated Time Frame: 4–5 periods — 60 minutes each

Suggested Implementation Strategy

Period 1 **60 minutes**

Activity 1

(Before the class begins, the teacher needs to make copies of the cartoons and cut off the answers)

- Arrange the class in groups. (3–4 people)
 - Hand out one economic cartoon to each group.
 - Ask the groups to discuss the meaning of the cartoons and how the ideas depicted in the cartoons affect the lives of people in Canada. (N.B. the correct answers are listed beside the cartoons.)
 - Rotate the cartoons so all the cartoons have been shared.
 - When the cartoons are back to their original starting point, ask the class for comments on what economic ideas were represented. Make a list of their ideas on the board, making sure that all of the following ideas have been mentioned:
 - Political Stability
 - Reducing National Debt
 - Economic Growth
 - Increased Productivity and Efficiency
 - Equitable Distribution of Income
 - Price Stability
 - Full Employment
 - Protecting the Environment
 - Freedom of Choice

Activity 2

- Explain that these cartoons ideas represent 9 of Canada’s Economic Goals.
- Ask each group to think about which goals are most important to people in Canada and prioritize the list.
- Lead a discussion about how they decided what is most important.
 - What reasons would there be for groups having different opinions about what is important?

Period 2 **60 minutes**

- Show this short educational video explaining some roles of government in the economy at:
<http://vimeo.com/8216078>
- Show it again and ask the students to find 4 different ways the government affects the economy. (monetary policy, government debt, inflation, trade regulations)
- Ask the class the question:
 - Should everyone have the same amount of money?
 - What factors decide a person's income?
 - How does the government affect a person's incomes?
- Arrange the class in groups.
 - Tell the class to brainstorm their own ideas, about the factors that affect how much money a person makes, then access the following website to make a mind map displaying the factors. Encourage creativity. Tell the class that they will be presenting their maps.
 - Before they start, the teacher should share the assessment rubric that will be used to evaluate the mind maps presentations.
<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com/articles/income-distribution>
 - Allow time at the end of the period to share their mind maps.

Period 3/4 **60 minutes**

- Ask the class to brainstorm a list of world-wide environmental concerns. Record their ideas on the board.
- Access the following article on the internet, which explains how over several years, the government of Sri Lanka has addressed environmental concerns.
<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/bangkok/events/greenjobs/download/paper4.pdf>
- Tell the class that they are to choose a country, research and make a report as to what this government is doing to improve environmental concerns.
- The teacher should keep track of the countries picked to ensure that a variety of countries are chosen.
- Allow the rest of the period for the students to start their assignment.
- The teacher can decide whether or not to take another period or assign the project to be finished for homework.
- The reports may be shared during another period.

Period 5 **60 minutes**

- Have the students complete their assignment and report to the class.
- For homework, the students are to select one environmental concern and research what Canada is doing to address that concern.
- At the start of the next period the students should report on their homework and hand it in.

Possible Evaluations

1. Assess the group responses to the meaning of the cartoons.
2. The class and group participation can be assessed.
3. Use the rubric for the mind map presentations.
4. The reports can be collected for marking.

Follow-Up Activities

1. Write to a government member expressing concern about an environmental issue in Canada.
2. Access other lessons on Environmental Issues at *The Globe and Mail* Online Classroom Edition.
3. Hold a discussion on whether or not they believe that, based on their homework findings, Canada is being responsible in addressing these global environmental concerns.

Modifications or Suggestions for Different Learners

1. Everyone can play a role in the discussions, group assignments and presentations.

Supplies Needed

1. Large chart paper and markers.

Handouts/Resources

1. Cartoons
2. Educational Video, from [James Harding](#)
3. The Canadian Encyclopedia © 2012 Historica-Dominion
4. An assessment Rubric for Oral Presentation, Manitoba Social Studies Curriculum

Increased Productivity and Efficiency



Political Stability



Full Employment



Price Stability



The Canadian Dollar rises to an all time high. \$1.05 U.S

Freedom of Choice



Equitable Distribution of Income



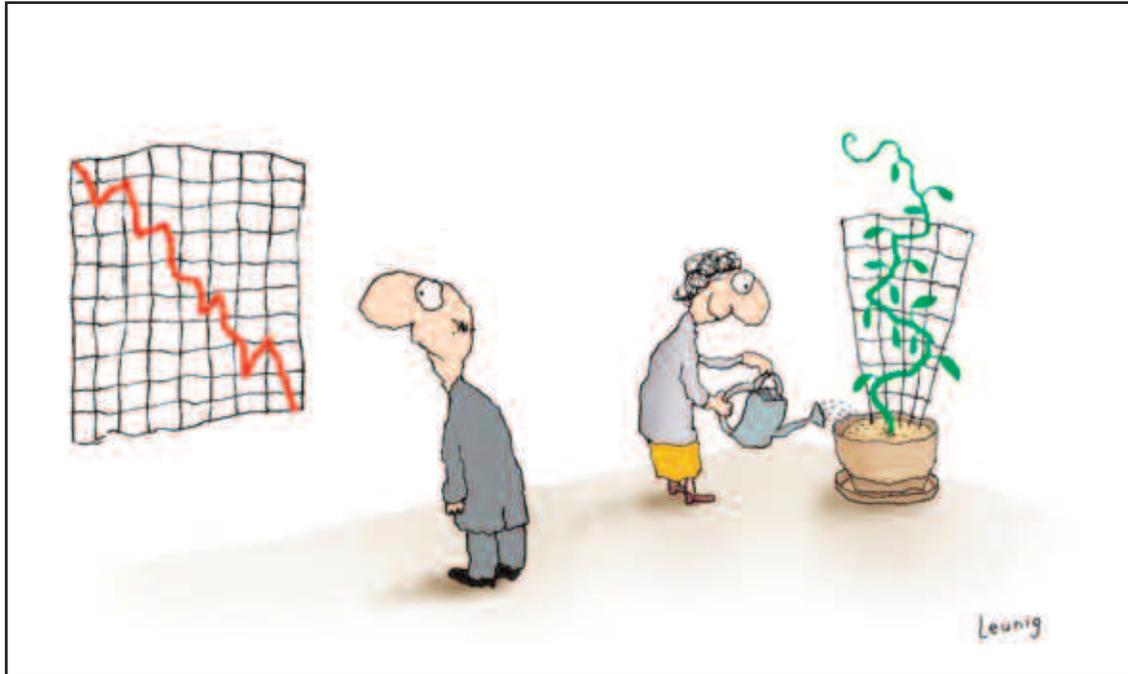
Reducing National Debt



Protecting the Environment



Economic Growth



TBLM OLE.5#1: Assessment Rubric for Oral Presentation

Student's Name _____ **Date** _____

Content: _____

Organization

3. Is logically or creatively organized.
2. Is organized.
1. Demonstrates limited organization and structure.

Preparation

3. Shows detailed preparation.
2. Shows evidence of preparation (cue cards/audiovisual equipment).
1. Shows minimal evidence of preparation.

Material

3. Material is consistent with the topic.
2. Material, for the most part, is relevant to the topic.
1. Material is irrelevant to the topic or inappropriate.

Language

3. Language is appropriate and interesting.
2. Language is appropriate.
1. Language is inappropriate.

Creativity

3. Shows considerable creativity.
2. Shows some creativity.
1. Shows limited creativity.

Visuals

3. Visuals are effective and add to the presentation.
2. Visuals are appropriate.
1. Visuals have limited effectiveness.

Delivery

Speech

3. All words are spoken clearly.
2. Many words are spoken clearly.
1. Many words are not spoken clearly.

Volume

3. Volume is loud enough to be heard easily.
2. Volume is inconsistent.
1. Volume is too low.

Interest

3. Displays enthusiasm for the topic.
2. Displays interest in the topic.
1. Exhibits minimal interest in the topic.

Eye Contact

3. Makes effective eye contact.
 2. Makes some eye contact.
 1. Makes no eye contact.
- (Consider cultural appropriateness.)