**Here are some thoughts our Teen Teach-In teachers had about the event they did in October of 2023. They have all offered to serve as mentors for the April event and are happy to answer any questions you might have. Feel free to reach out to any of them.**

**Sahvanna Mease** [**sahvanna.mease@calhanschool.org**](mailto:sahvanna.mease@calhanschool.org)

**What grade level did you work with?**

My high school student worked with elementary students from 1st grade through 5th grade.

**What was the “title” of your lesson?**

Our lesson titles changed for each grade level and we mostly used the ones from Jump$start.

1st Grade- Needs and Wants

2nd Grade- Planet Zee and the Money Tree Book and Game

3rd Grade- Choices and Opportunities

4th Grade- Saving, Spending and Borrowing

5th Grade- Investing in Tomorrow

**What resource/s did you use?**

We used the Teen Teach-In resources from Jump$tart. Each group read through the lesson plans and personalized the slide decks to be more interactive and specific to each group. We used books and the Tree Topple game from Ally. This year we plan on using the Money Tales books from Sheila Bair for each grade level. Students will read the books and create a small activity to go with each to pull out the financial literacy concepts more.

**Any helpful advice for first time Teach-In teachers?**

Good advice for students in their first-time teaching is to make it as interactive as possible. Teachers could tell which groups knew their information and practiced their lesson before teaching it in front of the elementary students

**How was your interaction perceived by the elementary teachers and students?**

Teachers gave good feedback overall from the Teach-In. One piece of advice is that the 3rd-grade book "Alexander, Who Used to Be Rich Last Sunday" was reported to be too long for the students to focus on. The more hands-on interaction and actual teaching from student’s vs listening to an online book the better.

**Tiffanie Smith** [**tiffanie.smith@nn.k12,va.us**](mailto:tiffanie.smith@nn.k12,va.us)

**What grade level did you work with?**

2nd and 3rd

**What was the “title” of your lesson?**

Needs vs Wants

**What resource/s did you use?**

Jump$tart Clearinghouse Elementary resource and an interactive activity the students found.

**Any helpful advice for first time Teach-In teachers?**

Do not attempt to take 25 students unless you have several classes to break them into.  Placing 3-4 students per class would be enough.  Meet with students prior to preview lesson and allow them to get familiar with what they will be presenting.

**How was your interaction perceived by the elementary teachers and students?**

They all loved it.

**Courtney Poquette** [**cpoquette@wsdvt.org**](mailto:cpoquette@wsdvt.org)

**What grade level did you work with?**

We worked in first and second grade classrooms.

**What was the “title” of your lesson?**

Teen Teach-In / Read In

**What resource/s did you use?**

Donors Choose to purchase books for the project.  I have added to this collection every year, so now there is a library of over 60 books in my classroom aimed at teaching Personal Finance topics to elementary students.

**Any helpful advice for first time Teach-In teachers?**

I was able to get every high school student involved, by having the teaching piece on a smaller scale.  My students partnered with a couple of elementary students and read a Personal Finance book of their choice to them.  Then they either completed paper activities, which I had printed, or played money counting games with the students.  Each student had a plan for what they wanted to do when they were with the elementary students.

**How was your interaction perceived by the elementary teachers and students?**

The elementary teachers loved the interaction and even said that they wanted to add coin counting back into their math curriculum, once they saw how engaged their students were with this.

[**Here's the news clip**](https://www.mynbc5.com/article/winooski-high-school-financial-literacy/45523339)**of Courtneys event.**

**Lea Ann Fisher** [**leaann.fisher@rpsb.us**](mailto:leaann.fisher@rpsb.us)

**What grade level did you work with?**

The students who did the Teen Teach In worked with grades 1-4

**What was the “title” of your lesson?**

The students actually took the suggested curriculum, made some adjustments to it and then they presented to the different grade levels.

**What resource/s did you use?**

We used the powerpoints provided by the Teen Teach In and then adjusted them using CANVA.

**Any helpful advice for first time Teach-In teachers?**

 Just have the students practice giving the lesson before they go in and give the lesson, have a lead teacher or elementary teacher look over the materials just to make sure it is age appropriate for the students.

**How was your interaction perceived by the elementary teachers and students?**

The students and the teachers loved it, and my students are excited to do it again.

**Dr. Eric Hite** [**hitepastor@gmail.com**](mailto:hitepastor@gmail.com)

**What grade level did you work with?**

I worked with 3rd and 6th graders.

**What was the “title” of your lesson?**

“Who wants to be a Millionaire?”

**What resource/s did you use?**

I used the Troutwood app, The build your Stax game from NGPF and the Stock Market Game from FINRA

**Any helpful advice for first time Teach-In teachers?**

1. Share your journey into financial literacy. Be honest about your struggles and your path to overcoming. Most teachers are making bad financial decisions, struggling with debt and living paycheck to paycheck. They need to hear what you have to say and know that they aren’t unique nor are they alone.

2. Create a relatable vision. If they can realistically see the benefits of the topic you’re discussing, it will potentially stick with them longer.

3. Give one topic/principle per meeting. Yes, they need all of it, but I’d rather nail down one specific thing that I know that understood, than share 20 topics and hope they heard something that caught their interest.

4. Don’t get frustrated over lack of interest, negative feedback or lack of visible results or accolades from participants.

5. Remember you are just the mailman. Your job is simply to deliver the mail, not fret about whether they responded to the letters they received.My greatest peace is knowing that I shared nuggets of gold with them and they can never say “I wish someone had told me about...,” I just did and by sharing, I did my job.

**How was your interaction perceived by the elementary teachers and students?**

The teachers were receptive and glad to hear the information. They had even more questions because they are living it. The students were great, they always have questions and were very interested

**Kevin Gartman** [**kevingartman@gmail.com**](mailto:kevingartman@gmail.com)

**What grade level did you work with?**

2nd and 3rd grade - we are a K-12 school district in one building, but those two grades were open and available for us during that timeframe.  
**What was the “title” of your lesson?**  
Making Financial Choices and Opportunity Costs (Alexander Who Used to Be Rich Last Sunday)  
**What resource/s did you use?**Jump$tart plans - but Investopedia has some good elementary ones that are new too!  
**Any helpful advice for first time Teach-In teachers?**  
If you have good students, provide them the base of the lesson but let them make it their own. The more say they have in how the lesson is put together, the smoother it will flow. If you give them a lesson plan and tell them to go teach it, it'll function just like buying a lesson plan off Teachers Pay Teachers right before you teach it. You want them to have stock in the lesson so it's natural for them.  
**How was your interaction perceived by the elementary teachers and students?**

The elementary teachers loved it! Kids loved hearing from their role models in activities and in the hallways, while teachers enjoyed providing an opportunity for students to learn in a new way.