

Academic Content Standards Benchmarks: Economics

By the end of the K-2 program:

- A. Explain how the scarcity of resources requires people to make choices to satisfy their wants.
- B. Distinguish between goods and services and explain how people can be both buyers and sellers of goods and services.
- C. Explain ways that people may obtain goods and services.

By the end of the 3-5 program:

- A. Explain the opportunity costs involved in the allocation of scarce productive resources.
- B. Explain why entrepreneurship, capital goods, technology, specialization and division of labor are important in the production of goods and services.
- C. Explain how competition affects producers and consumers in a market economy and why specialization facilitates trade.

By the end of the 6-8 program:

- A. Explain how the endowment and development of productive resources affect economic decisions and global interactions.
- B. Explain why trade occurs and how historical patterns of trade have contributed to global interdependence.
- C. Identify connections between government policies and the economy.

By the end of the 9-10 program:

- A. Compare how different economic systems answer the fundamental economic questions of what goods and services to produce, how to produce them, and who will consume them.
- B. Explain how the U.S. government provides public services, redistributes income, regulates economic activity, and promotes economic growth and stability.

By the end of the 11-12 program:

- A. Analyze how scarcity of productive resources affects supply, demand, inflation and economic choices.
- B. Identify factors which inhibit or spur economic growth and cause expansions or recessions.
- C. Explain how voluntary worldwide trade, specialization and interdependence among countries affect standards of living and economic growth.
- D. Analyze the role of fiscal and regulatory policies in a mixed economy
- E. Explain the use of a budget in making personal economic decisions and planning for the future.