



Classroom Connect Volunteer Toolkit

MINDING YOUR MONEY: SKILLS FOR LIFE™



Guardian Minding Your Money: Skills for Life™ Program

About

Guardian is dedicated to supporting financial well-being of students in underserved communities by providing them with tools that empower them to plan bright futures.

Minding Your Money: Skills for Life™ is a first-of-its-kind financial wellness curriculum that addresses the intersections of personal finances, relationships, and health, while also helping young people learn lasting financial habits before they enter adulthood.

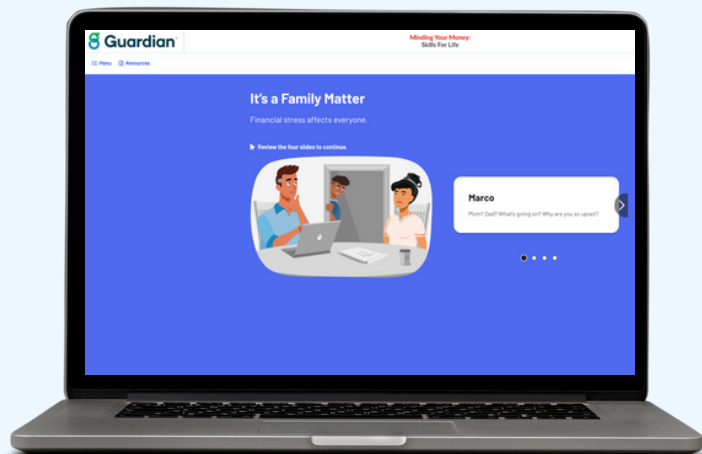


Guardian Volunteers

Beyond providing the digital course, teachers have the opportunity to invite Guardian employees to visit their classrooms. In this toolkit, Guardian volunteers gain access to the resources needed to lead a fun and exciting classroom visit.

Gain access to the course demo by visiting:
<https://platform.everfi.net/registration/login>

Username: guardiandemo **Password:** 6guardianlife!



Digital Lessons

- Grade Level: 9-12
- Total Lessons: 5 (~15 minutes each)
- Topics include:
 - The Financial Stages of Life
 - Understanding Your Financial Values
 - Money and Mental Wellness
 - Money and Relationships
 - Initiating Financial Conversations

Classroom Connect Event Run of Show

Sample Run of Show

When planning a classroom visit, work with the teacher to determine the event format (in-person or virtual) and the type of technology that you'll be using. If you're having a virtual event, set a separate meeting with the teacher to perform a technology test.

Run of Show	Time
<p>Opening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher welcomes students and Guardian volunteers Teacher sets the scene on why Guardian is in attendance today and what the students will be discussing/learning about. Students to then be broken into groups according to how many Guardian volunteers are present. Goal is to have ~5 students per volunteer. Teacher to introduce instructions to set expectations for volunteers and students <p>Introductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce yourself to the group Introduce the activity 	10 mins
<p>Activity (Volunteer Moderated)</p> <p>Connecting with students through activity is a meaningful way to extend their learning experience. The goal is to help bring the learnings from the course to life through this engagement.</p> <p>Students will be broken into smaller groups to help with more intimate discussion. Ideally, 5 students with one volunteer (pending classroom size and number of volunteers)</p> <p>Warm-up discussion questions</p> <p>Discussion and Trivia</p>	30 mins
<p>Concluding Remarks/Farewell</p> <p>Teacher to ask students to share any of their key learnings from the breakout group and/or what the Guardian volunteers taught them.</p> <p>Be sure to thank the students and teachers for participating in the event.</p>	5 mins

Minding Your Money Discussion & Trivia

Activity Instructions

Introduce the activity to students.

Introduce yourself to the group. Use these start questions below to help the students get to know you a bit more.

- Name, job title, how long you've been with Guardian, where/if you went to college, what did you study?
- Provide relatability – where did you grow up, have you faced any challenges on your path to where you are today?
- How did you start your career at Guardian?
- Share a personal anecdote – for example: Why do you think it is important to learn about different financial stages in life, how financial values can shape your attitudes and habits with money, how money and mental health are intertwined, and how money can affect interpersonal relationships.
- Tell us a bit about a day in the life of a Guardian employee



Volunteers are encouraged to give feedback and their own personal experiences/advice based on the student(s) answers.

Discussion Questions

This next portion includes discussion and trivia type questions from course learnings. Volunteers are encouraged to lend advice and expand upon student answers. This is intended to be a conversation amongst the group.

Volunteers can pick from any of the questions below to ask students. Try to get through as many as possible pending time and discussion.

1. **True/False: Net worth is the total value of a person's asset (cash, savings, and property) minus their debts.** *True*
2. **How many life stages for financial planning are there?** *5*
3. **Can you name them?** *Early career, mid-career, pre-retirement, early retirement, late retirement*
4. **You all might be young to think about retirement now, but it is important to start thinking about long term goals and retirement. What are some ways you can do this?**
(open-ended questions, no right/wrong answer)
5. **Do any of you have any current financial goals?** *(saving to buy a car, saving for college, etc.)*
6. **What are the five financial values?** *Security, Freedom, Adventure, Self-care, Community*
7. **Which of the five values do you all prioritize and why?** *(No wrong answer)*
8. **How can stress impact financial decisions?** *(open-ended questions, no right/wrong answer)*
9. **What are some ways you all navigate stress?** *(open-ended questions, no right/wrong answer)*
10. **How can friends and family influence financial attitudes and behaviors?** *(open-ended question) Everyone has differing values, attitudes, and behaviors about money. This can be influenced by family, friends, what they see in the community, and the media they consume.*
11. **How can you navigate this when your financial behaviors don't align?** *(not giving into pressure, being comfortable saying no, identifying struggle in others due to warning signs, etc.)*
12. **What are some steps you all can take now as students to help you be set up for success financial in the future?**



Tips for Engaging with Students Virtually

Keep it brief

In order to maintain students' attention, we recommend that virtual events are no longer than 30 to 45 minutes and include transitions that allow for two-way engagement (polling, etc.).

Make it personal and relatable

Share your educational and career path with the students and add any personal stories or anecdotes from your life throughout the engagement. Students appreciate real world examples!

Enjoy yourself and have fun

Working with students can be fun, thought-provoking, and unpredictable! It's ok to say, "I'm not sure" if a student asks a question outside of your knowledge area or to joke about technical difficulties. Smile through those moments and be ready to shift topics based on student engagement, feedback, and interest.

