

## The Importance of Financial Literacy

November is [Financial Literacy Month](#) in Canada - a month to support the development of financial health and literacy in our students.

Paul Goebel of the Student Money Management Center Financial, shared that the future success of students relies on providing opportunities for them to learn, develop, and strengthen the core life skills they need today, and more importantly, tomorrow. Financial literacy is considered to be one such life skill!

Teaching students about money early on will increase their financial literacy and build their understanding of personal finances, the economy, and the results of their consumer activity. By having these discussions in school, we can prompt students to talk about money with their families and bridge the gap between learning and real-life application. These conversations can also lead students to make their own financial plans, inspire them to start saving money and make smart investments, and set post-secondary and career goals.



***But how can you engage students in money conversations, you ask?*** Here comes myBlueprint.

myBlueprint has a number of features and tools to engage youth and educators with this topic through interactive and multimedia experiences:

- [TFSA vs. RRSP: What is the right choice for me?](#) - This is an introductory lesson focused on students learning the difference, and similarities between a TFSA and RRSP, and how they can begin determining which option is right for them.
- [Investments and Savings](#) - An introductory lesson on the concepts of investments and savings
- [Overcoming Obstacles](#) - A lesson on budgeting and revising a budget through employment changes in an experiential context
- [GLC20 Financial Literacy Portfolio Checklist](#) - This checklist will help students build and improve their financial decision-making process. They will learn how important financial literacy is while working towards a post-secondary destination and pathway of their choice.

### Want to learn more about how to support Financial Literacy in the Education Planner?

1. Have students use the **Money** tool and **Budget Guide** to create a budget for something that they want (i.e. a bike) or their post-secondary plans
2. Have students set [S.M.A.R.T. goals](#) relating to their savings, investments, or post-secondary plans
3. Have students create a [Math or Financial Literacy Portfolio](#) to reflect on their understanding of key financial literacy concepts and track achievements in numeracy
4. [Download the grade-specific Financial Literacy lesson plan.](#)
5. Invite your students to play the web-based [Lifestyle Reality Check](#) game and reflect on their learning through their Financial Literacy portfolio in myBlueprint
  - a. Pro tip: Educators can find additional resources from [Your Money - Students](#) hosted by the Canadian Bankers Association

Want to learn more? Email [support@myBlueprint.ca](mailto:support@myBlueprint.ca) or [sign up for a drop-in webinar](#).

**Do you need a teacher account set up?** Email Terri-Ann Wynans at [twynans@sd70.bc.ca](mailto:twynans@sd70.bc.ca)