

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to

- Explain what a checking account is used for and why it is important to have one
- Understand the variety of ways they can deposit and withdraw funds from their checking account
- Describe the consequences of not being in the banking system
- Understand various options for payment (cash, check, debit, person-to-person, prepaid card) and determine when to use each type

Approximate Time

- Lesson length: 75 mins

Jump\$tart Standards

Saving

- 3b: Compare and contrast the features of mobile payment accounts, cryptocurrency accounts, and checking/ savings accounts
- 5c: Explain the importance of solvency regulation for financial institutions

Managing Credit

- 13b: Discuss the costs and benefits of using alternative financial services relative to traditional banking

Distribute to Students

- [Student Activity Packet FY-1.1](#)

Plan Your Unit

- [Unit Plan for Checking](#)
- [Checking on www.ngpf.org](#)
- [Customizable Parent Newsletter: Checking](#)



LESSON PLAN

	Resources	Questions	Est. Time
1	DISCUSSION PROMPTS	Discussion Prompts Discuss these questions with your classmates or with a partner: 1. Do you have a checking account? Why or why not? 2. What do you think are some of the advantages and disadvantages of having a checking account?	5 mins
2	VIDEO (2:20) • Why Should We Use a Bank? • Publisher: Ash Cash ARTICLE • 5 Reasons Why You Need a Checking Account • Publisher: Net Credit	Why Should We Use a Bank? & 5 Reasons Why You Need a Checking Account Watch this video and then read the article to discover why this lesson is called "The Essential Checking Account." Then, answer the questions. 1. Explain why it's so important to take advantage of the FDIC insurance offered by (almost all) banks. 2. One might argue that a checking account is <u>essential</u> because it enables you to manage the rest of your financial life. Give some examples of how checking is useful in the realms of saving, budgeting, and/or other financial tasks.	10 mins

3	VIDEO (9:08-12:47) • Spent: Looking for Change • Publisher: The Young Turks	Spent: Looking for Change You may be wondering, “What are some of the disadvantages if you do NOT have a checking account?” Watch this short segment (9:08-12:47) of a much longer documentary to learn what some of the challenges are. Then, answer the question. 1. What are some of the disadvantages of being locked out of, or choosing not to belong to, the traditional banking system?	8 mins
4	REFERENCE • Reference: Make Deposits & Withdrawals • Publisher: NGPF VIDEO (1:48) • How Does a Checking Account Work? • Publisher: Ash Cash	Make Deposits and Withdrawals & How Does a Checking Account Work? Review these two slides on how to deposit (put money into) and withdraw (take money out) with your checking account, and then watch the brief video to answer the questions. 1. What two methods of depositing and withdrawing money are most convenient for you? Why? 2. What is the main difference between a debit card and a credit card?	7 mins
5	VIDEO (1:20) • Prepaid Cards • Publisher: Federal Trade Commission ARTICLE • 9 Things You Need to Know About Prepaid Cards • Publisher: creditcards.com	Prepaid Cards & 9 Things You Need to Know About Prepaid Cards First, watch the video. Then, skim the lengthy article in order to complete the chart and questions on the student activity packet. You may also want to think back to Justin’s experience in the earlier video, Spent, as you answer.	10 mins
6	ACTIVITY • RESEARCH: Person-to-Person Payments • Publisher: NGPF	RESEARCH: Person-to-Person Payments Follow the directions in this worksheet to complete this activity.	20 mins
7	EXIT TICKET ❖ Teacher Tip: To access this Exit Ticket, please see the Sample Completed Student Activity Packet (SSAP). You can find this on the Unit Page this resource is in.	Exit Ticket Follow your teacher’s directions to complete the Exit Ticket.	5 mins

***Teacher Tip:** You can reduce the amount of time for this project by having students focus on 1-3 scenarios rather than all or by breaking students into groups with each group assigned one scenario for share-out with the whole class.



EXTEND THE LEARNING

DO MORE...

ACTIVITY

- [MOVE: Your Account Balance](#)
- Publisher: NGPF

FINCAP FRIDAY

- [Google Makes Bank](#)
- Publisher: NGPF

INTERACTIVES

- [Quizlet Vocabulary | Checking](#)
- Publisher: NGPF
- [How America Banks: Household Use of Banking and Financial Services](#)
- Publisher: FDIC
- [Data by Location](#) *CRE and Equity
- Publisher: Prosperity Now Scorecard

LEARN MORE...

ARTICLES

- [ATM fees jump to record high and these cities are the worst](#)
- Publisher: USA Today
- [The Cost of Being Unbanked](#)
- Publisher: Nerdwallet
- [Would Postal Banking Save the Post Office?](#)
- Publisher: Forbes

PODCAST

- [What is Driving the Unbanking of America?](#)
*CRE and Equity
- Publisher: NPR Fresh Air

FAST FACTS...

- The average non-interest checking account had a monthly fee of \$5.27 in 2020, but 47% of those accounts were free (Bankrate, 2020).
- Approximately 5.4% of people in the US were unbanked in 2019. Nearly 95% were banked, which was the highest percentage since the FDIC began collecting this data in 2009 (FDIC, 2020).