BUSINESS & COMPUTER SCIENCE/BUSINESS MANAGEMENT Computer Dynamics of the Stock Market Unit 3: Economic Indicators

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Essential Understandings	 The Gross Domestic Product is one of the most important indicators of economic performance. The prices of the specified products are measured each month, and the percentage change in price is reported as the Consumer Price Index. Industrial production measures the output of American industry. Periods of economic growth are often fueled by increased demand for economic products. News reports inform the public about the state of the economy and changes in economic performance.
Essential Questions	 What does the Gross Domestic Product tell economists? What does the Consumer Price Index measure? How do economic indicators help with the assessment of economic performance? What does the unemployment rate measure?
Essential Knowledge	 Gross Domestic Product (GDP) measures the dollar value of all goods and services produced in the U.S. economy in one year. The Consumer Price Index measures the change in the overall cost of a variety of consumer goods and services. While economic data can be confusing, an understanding of the basic indicators and economic performance can help people to understand what is happening in the economy and prepare for the possibility of economic downturns or upturns. The unemployment rate measures the percentage of people in the labor force.
Vocabulary	 Terms: Gross Domestic Product, Consumer Price Index, interest rate, unemployment rate, trends, economic indicators, Federal Reserve
Essential Skills	 Describe how economic indicators can help with assessment of economic performance. Identify relationships between economic indicators. Identify trends in economic indicators.
Related Maine Learning Results	Social Studies C. Economics C1.Economic Knowledge, Concepts, Themes, and Patterns Students understand the principles and processes of personal economics, the role of markets, the economic system of the United States, and other economic systems in the world, and how economics serves to inform decisions in the present and future. a. Explain that the study of economics includes the analysis
	and description of production, distribution, and consumption

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	of goods and services by business, and is the basis of individual personal finance management including saving
	and investing.
Related Maine Learning Results	 b. Explain and analyze the role of financial institutions, the stock market, and government, including fiscal, monetary, and trade policies, in personal, business, and national economics. c. Evaluate different forms of money management, and the positive and negative impacts that credit can have on individual finances, using economic reasoning. d. Identify and explain various economic indicators and how they represent and influence economic activity. e. Analyze economic activities and policies in relationship to freedom, efficiency, equity, security, growth, and sustainability. f. Explain and apply the concepts of specialization, economic interdependence, and comparative advantage. g. Solve problems using the theory of supply and demand. C2.Individual, Cultural, International, and Global Connections in Economics Students understand economic aspects of unity and diversity in Maine, the United States, and the world, including Maine Native American communities. a. Analyze the role of regional, international, and global organizations that are engaged in economic development. b. Compare a variety of economic systems and the economic development of Maine, the United States, and various regions of the world that are economically diverse. c. Analyze wealth, poverty, resource distribution, and other economic factors of diverse cultures, including Maine and other Native Americans, various historical and recent immigrant groups in Maine and the United States, and various world cultures.
Sample	Groups create charts that show how economic indicators can help
Lessons	with assessing economic performances.
And	Prepare a class demonstration that provides information about
Activities	economic indicators.
Sample Classroom	 Answer the questions listed at the National Economic Trends
Assessment	website.
Methods	WODORO.
Sample	Other Resources:
Resources	Stock Market Simulation

Brunswick School Department: Grades 9-12

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