

# Building A Financial Future

## Managing Money for Middle School (Ages 12-14)

Middle school is a crucial time for building financial awareness. As children grow more independent, they need to learn more about budgeting, the significance of saving, and the impact of advertising. Parents can help by discussing financial responsibilities and guiding them through the management of a personal budget. This practical approach helps them understand the consequences of financial decisions. Here are some Fiscal Fitness Tips for middle school students.



### BEGIN BUDGETING

Managing a budget is like planning your exercise routine. You need to balance different activities such as cardio (saving), strength training (spending), and flexibility exercises (emergency funds) to achieve your goals.

### YOU CAN TAKE THAT TO THE BANK!

Opening a savings account is like joining a gym for your money. It grows stronger through interest, just like you get stronger from exercising regularly.

### ATTENTION AND ADVERTISING

Advertisements can influence us much like a coach, guiding our decisions. However, it's important to discern when advertisements are encouraging us to make poor spending choices. Learn to recognize these types of practices in advertising and you can avoid spending your hard earned money on things you don't really need!

### GIVE IT AWAY, GIVE IT AWAY, GIVE IT AWAY NOW

Think of giving to charity like being part of a team relay. Your contribution helps your team advance towards a common goal, and you help make a difference in the community!

### SPEND SMARTER

Use your money wisely by shopping around and comparing prices. It's like choosing the right equipment for a sport—getting the best quality for the best price makes you a savvy sports shopper.

### BE RESPONSIBLE

Managing expenses like a phone bill or movie tickets can be thought of as managing your energy levels. Make sure you have enough energy (money) to last you the entire game (month).

### I'M IN! AN INTRODUCTION TO INVESTING

Investing is like playing a long-term sport, where patience and strategy can lead to big wins. Start learning the rules of this game with simple investments.

### GOING FOR THE GOAL

Setting financial goals for high school and beyond is like setting personal records in sports. Whether it's saving for a car or for college, define your goals, plan your training (saving), and go for the win!

