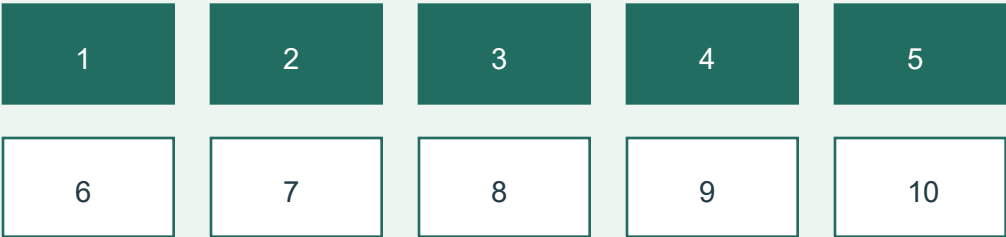


Stock Signals, Made Simple

A plain-language guide to shares, charts, and careful choices



An imaginary business. Real questions. No real money needed.

Meet Maya and Leo as they explore Sunny Sips, a pretend lemonade business. These three chapters introduce ownership, changing prices, and reading a simple chart.

How to use this sample

Read at your own pace. Children should read with a trusted adult. Try each activity before checking the answers. You need only paper and a pencil. There is no purchase, account, or review required.

This is an editorially revised draft, not a reader-validated edition. It does not promise investment success or a particular reading age.

Start here

Three different ideas

Saving means setting money aside for later. Investing means putting money into something hoping for future income or growth, while accepting risk. Trading means buying and selling, often over shorter periods, hoping to benefit from changing prices.

This sample teaches vocabulary and careful thinking, not what to buy. All businesses and prices are invented. A picture of past prices cannot tell us for certain what happens next.

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Read one chapter, look at its picture, and explain the idea to someone else. It is fine to say “I do not understand yet.” Skip the optional notes if you prefer.

A tiny piece of a business

Maya and Leo invent a lemonade business called Sunny Sips. They draw cups, lemons, and a sign in their notebook. This is a learning story: they are not selling real shares or using real money.

In their first example, ten cups sell for \$1 each. That brings in \$10. Lemons, cups, and the other costs in this example total \$6. After paying those costs, \$4 remains. That is profit. Money coming in is not the same as profit!

Now they draw ten equal ownership boxes. Each box stands for one share: a small piece of ownership in the business. One out of ten is one-tenth. Five out of ten is half. Owning a share does not mean you can take a lemon or help yourself to the cash box.

“So a share is a prize?” asks Leo. “No,” says Maya. “The business might do well or badly.” Ownership can become worth less. A good business can also have a falling share price. The price people pay and the money a business earns are different things.

Remember

A share is a piece of ownership, not a promise of profit.

Look, try, explain



Ten equal pieces of ownership. Shaded pieces: 5 out of 10 = one-half.

Try it

Draw ten equal boxes. Shade two. What fraction do you own? If sales are \$10 and all costs are \$12, is there a profit or a loss?

Say it your way

Explain the main idea in your own words. What part would you like explained differently?

Go further - optional

Real companies can have millions of shares. Our ten-box picture teaches fractions; it does not describe how a real business offers shares.

Why does the price change?

Maya makes pretend price cards for their notebook. A seller wants \$6 for a share card. A buyer offers \$4. They have not agreed, so there is no trade yet. If both agree on \$5, that becomes the price of their trade.

Leo adds a story card: “A picnic organizer may order lots of lemonade.” Someone might expect Sunny Sips to earn more. Another person might worry that rain will cancel the picnic. They can read the same news and disagree.

Then lemons become more expensive in the story. Higher costs could leave less profit. But a price does not always move the way a headline seems to suggest. People may already have expected the news.

“Can we know tomorrow's price?” asks Maya. No. We can ask questions about a business without pretending we know the answer. In an ordinary resale of a share, the buyer's money goes to the seller, not directly to the business.

Remember

A price records an agreement. It does not tell us what happens next.

Look, try, explain

SELLER ASKS

\$6

BUYER OFFERS

\$4

BOTH AGREE

\$5

No trade until buyer and seller agree.

Seller asks \$6; buyer offers \$4: no agreement. Both accept \$5: a trade.

Try it

A seller asks \$7 and a buyer offers \$5. Must they trade? Name one question you would ask about the picnic news.

Say it your way

Explain the main idea in your own words. What part would you like explained differently?

Go further - optional

Price reflects expectations as well as present information. A profitable company can disappoint expectations, and its share price can fall.

A picture of prices

For five days, Maya writes one pretend closing price per day. A closing price is the price recorded at the end of the trading session being studied. Their cards say \$5, \$6, \$4, \$5, and \$7.

Leo joins the dots. Now they have a line chart. The bottom labels show time. The side labels show dollars. An axis is a labeled line along an edge of a chart. Each step must mean what its labels say.

“Friday was \$7,” says Leo. That is an observation about the picture. “Monday will be \$8” is a guess, not something the chart proves. The blank space after Friday is still unknown.

The line also leaves things out. A single closing price cannot show every price during a day. Before reading any chart, ask: What is measured? What dates are shown? How much does each step mean? A cropped or stretched scale can make a small move look enormous.

Remember

Read the labels before reading the line.

Look, try, explain



Invented daily closing prices; equal day spacing and a labeled dollar scale.

Try it

Which day has the lowest close? Between which two days is the biggest drop? Can this picture tell you Friday's highest price?

Say it your way

Explain the main idea in your own words. What part would you like explained differently?

Go further - optional

A percentage chart and a dollar chart answer different questions. Always check the scale and the period before comparing pictures.

Answers - try first

Chapter 1

Two of ten boxes are two-tenths (one-fifth). \$10 of sales minus \$12 of costs is a \$2 loss. Ownership does not mean permission to take business property.

Chapter 2

No. They can refuse or keep discussing a price. Useful questions include whether the picnic order is certain, how much it costs to fill, and whether weather might change it.

Chapter 3

Wednesday closes lowest at \$4. Tuesday to Wednesday falls \$2. The closing-price chart does not show Friday's highest price.

One last question

Does a higher Friday closing price tell us Monday's price? No. The chart shows the invented past, not a guaranteed future.

Optional adult feedback

Adults: share only what you are comfortable sharing. If reading with a child, obtain guardian permission and the child's agreement. Stop whenever they wish. Do not send names of children, photos, recordings, or family financial information.

Which chapter or page did you read?

Which word or explanation was confusing?

Did a picture help? Which one, and why?

What could the reader explain without help?

What should be clearer, shorter, or different?

To share feedback, reply privately to the adult/account that sent you this sample. A dedicated online feedback form is not yet connected. Feedback is optional; no public review is requested.