



How to Get Your Kids Ready to InvestWrite!

InvestWrite®, an innovative national writing competition, is a companion to the *Stock Market Game*™ program. By participating in the competition, students have the opportunity to reinforce what they learned and to use their critical thinking skills as they articulate that knowledge.

While the essay itself is not lengthy, the process of getting started can be daunting for some of our young writers. Here are a few tips to get your class on the road to *InvestWrite*® success!

- Students need to be participants in the *Stock Market Game*™ (SMG) in order to participate in *InvestWrite*®. Let your students know before they sign up for the game that they will be responsible for taking part in the essay contest. This helps them tune in to the vocabulary with a goal in mind.
- Utilize the SMG Teacher Resource Center. The “In the News” and “Stock Talk” publications are excellent resources for introducing vocabulary on an elementary level and can be referred to at home while your students are writing their essays.
- Introduce your students to a variety of print and online resources. *Investors Business Daily*, *Yahoo! Finance*, and the Money and Finance sections of your local paper are just a few places for students to learn about the current events and the effects they have on the market.
- Provide time for your students to break into discussion groups that focus on the essay topic. Brainstorming ideas can give all students jumping off points from which to begin.
- Allow time for peer editing. This gives your students the opportunity to clarify their thoughts and identify errors before they turn in their essays. Remember, only the top ten essays can be entered into the contest, so it’s important for them to have the chance to make it the best it can be.

This is a very worthwhile endeavor for your students. Winners or not, they will all come away with more than they started! Good luck!!!

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