**Student Guide: An Ounce of Prevention is Worth a Ton of Cure** <Blog Post Date: May 25, 2019>

A Lesson in:

* Consumer Risk
* Risk Events Subject to Error
* Preference to Accept Risk

**Your Thoughts Before Reading:**

1. **Advice.** When is the last time someone asked for your advice, and then completely ignored it? Have you ever asked for advice from friends or family and then went on about your business as if you had never asked them at all? *Write about a time that you can remember.*

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1. **Grin and bear it.** *Explain why do you think that people commonly ask for advice, but ignore it? Is this using wisdom? Are there any times is which it is smart to ignore “advice?”*

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1. **It’s “Cringy.”** Some financial planners cower at the thought of these experiences on a regular basis. Why go through all of the hassle of finding someone with great skill and knowledge in financial matters only to make your huge investment (or lack thereof) decisions alone? People seem to prefer to ask questions, but ignore the answers.

*Why do people tend to underestimate their need to protect themselves financially? Do you tend to make decisions with your money on your own, or do you ask questions?*

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1. **Identify a trustworthy financial mentor.** *What credible person do you ask for financial advice from? Do you tend to follow their advice or ignore it?*

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1. **Money Mentors.** Make a short list of three financially savvy people you would feel comfortable asking financial questions; that you know has your best interest at heart.

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| 1. | 2. | 3. |

**During the Reading with Newspaper in Education:**

1. **Read through the attached article.** *As you read, make a list of financial decisions that responsible adults need to make with their money. Mark the items with a star that you will need to consider within the next year. Categorize these decisions with titles such as insurance, investment, and spending, etc. Try and match the list of the people you trust to help you make financially smart decisions with the type of financial decisions you will consider this upcoming year.*

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| **Financial Decision** | **Category** | **Mentor** |
| 1. |  |  |
| 2. |  |  |
| 3. |  |  |
| 4. |  |  |

**After the Reading:**

1. **Share.** Review your decisions with a partner and come up with a suggestion for your partner to examine.
2. **As a Class. Think Forward.**

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| What does it mean for some people to accept risk, while others reject it? | Why will some people pay a small cost now if to avoid a *possible* larger loss later? |
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**Extension:** On a 3x5 card, make a “quick guide” for yourself when making smart decisions with your money. Use the article to lead you in your financial decision making chart.

* 1. m based on: income, personality, habits and goals.
  2. Draw or make an avatar replica of each imaginary person.
  3. Write a short bio for each of the three personalities.
  4. Identify your three individuals as “renter,” “home owner” and “on the fence.”
  5. Write a paragraph that will help your “on the fence” decision maker come to a conclusion.
     + Hint: Be sure to list multiple advantages and disadvantages to both owning a home and renting.
  6. Compile a list of eight things to consider about homeownership, whereby you *demonstrate that you understand* how owning a home affects other areas of your life.

10. **Share.** Present your pamphlet, personalities, biographies, and thoughts to consider.

11. **Vote!** Let the rest of your class decide what your “on the fence” personality will do based upon the content you share and what you have learned as a class.

**Extension:** Find a property online to rent, and one to buy. *Create a plan for your Owner Avatar and your Renter Avatar. Describe the rental and buying process and what decisions are applicable for each home.*