



Mountain America Credit Union Financial Dreams Patch Program



Explore budgets, savings and setting goals.
Promote financial awareness with your family and community.
Learn tips to achieve your own financial dreams.



**If the requirement is starred (*) then it is a mandatory activity for all age levels.*

Discover:

Daisies complete 2; Brownies complete 3; Juniors complete 4; Cadettes, Seniors and Ambassadors complete 5

- A.** Learn about the things that your family has to budget for month to month. Build a budget for meeting your family's current expenses (food, utilities, rent, loan payments, entertainment, etc.). For ideas, review the April 2015 Mountain America/Deseret News financial literacy magazine online at <https://www.macu.com/financial-literacy-magazines>.
- B.** Talk with people to find out how they have saved for larger purchases/expenses like a car, house or college. Think of something you would like to buy. How much money would you need to save?
- C.** To reach your financial dreams you need to make money. What job or career would you like to pursue and how much do people who are in that job/career typically make? What jobs can you do now to earn money?
- D.** When you place your money in a savings or checking account, you can earn interest on your money. What is interest? Visit the Mountain America blog at for additional details at <http://blog.macu.com/blog/power-compounding-interest/>.
- E.** What is the difference between credit and debit cards? What is a credit score? What habits need to be practiced to achieve a high credit score? How can teenagers begin to build their own credit rating?
- F.** What are ways that you can save/invest your money so it increases in value over time? Research different ways to invest your money.
- G.** Research new ways that technology is changing banking and payment methods. Are they more or less secure than traditional banking practices?



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Connect:

Daisies complete 1; Brownies complete 2; Juniors complete 3; Cadettes, Seniors and Ambassadors complete 4

- A.** Take a tour of a local Mountain America Credit Union branch. Meet with a Branch Manager to learn about their job and how they help people reach their financial dreams. Visit www.macu.com and use the branch locator to find the branch closest to you. Call and ask to speak with the branch manager to arrange an appointment <https://www.macu.com/branch-locations>.
- B.** Attend the financial literacy Cookie College/Cookie University seminar at Mountain America Credit Union's Tanner Auditorium on Saturday, January 9, 2015. Seminar will be approximately two hours.
- C.** You might earn money through an allowance, birthday gifts, part-time jobs, babysitting, helping with housework/chores or assisting a neighbor. What are different things you can do today to earn money?
- D.** How do you apply for financial aid or loans for the purchase of a car or to cover the costs of college? Research on your own or with an adult to find out what options are available. For helpful ideas, refer to the Mountain America student blog at <http://blog.macu.com/student/>.
- E.** What are ways that interest works for or against you when you are saving money or taking out a loan? Calculate the true cost of buying a car or home if you take out a loan with a financial institution under the current interest rates. Learn more on Mountain America's blog at <http://blog.macu.com/student/time-money-compounding-cents-dollars/> or play with our financial calculators at <https://www.macu.com/financial-calculators>.
- F.** Do you want to become a millionaire? Create a plan to determine how much you need to earn and save in order to meet this goal. How long will this take? How old will you be? Review Mountain America's blog at <http://blog.macu.com/student/planning-future-penny-saved-millionaire/> or play with the online savings calculator at <https://www.macu.com/financial-calculators/cool-million>.

Take Action:

Daisies complete 1; Brownies complete 1; Juniors complete 2; Cadettes, Seniors and Ambassadors complete 2

- A.** You have learned a lot about budgeting, saving and setting financial goals. Share what you have learned with friends, family or other girl scouts.
- B.** Create a dream board that documents your financial goal(s) and share it with a friend or family member.
- C.** Set a savings goal for your own purchase that will help you reach your financial dream. Build your plan to include something for now, something for the future, and something to give away. Open up a savings/checking account to save your money for your financial goal. Play with the online savings calculator at <https://www.macu.com/financial-calculators/savings-goal>.
- D.** Teach someone who may not be technically savvy how to use online or mobile banking technology. Automatic bill pay, transferring money, using online banking to manage your accounts, setting up alerts for security and/or paying with your smartphone.