

Stock Market Report

For the past three weeks, our class participated in a stock market activity. The purpose of this activity was basically to simulate the period in history known as The Great Depression. I really enjoyed this project because not only did it get me involved in the economy and help me to learn how to be smart with money, but I also gained a good understanding of The Great Depression. During The Great Depression, the stock market's money values gradually increased and then suddenly, it crashed and millions of people lost all their money in a short period of time. This activity showed me how quickly money can be lost that had been prospering for so long. For example, I bought 35 shares of Panera Bread stock because it was prospering very well, and then throughout the three weeks the price dropped dramatically and I ended up losing about \$172.00. This showed me how unstable the economy can be, and that as a stockholder you must ride through the ups and downs of the stock market in order to prosper in the long run. The stock market can also be a very good thing and a lot of money can be made if you make smart investments in good stocks. For example, I noticed that the Pepsi Bottling company stock was doing very well, so I bought 73 shares and as a result made about \$150.00. The stock market can be very volatile. Prices fluctuate all the time. All in all, I really liked this activity. I've decided that when I get older and have money, I will invest in stocks because a lot of money can be made and I can learn a lot about the economy at the same time. Just during a three-week period, I made \$101.61 from an initial investment of about \$10,000. Without a doubt, I learned a great deal from this activity. I learned about The Great Depression, but more importantly that participation in the stock market can be extremely beneficial and can provide insights into the many components that make up our economy.