



PowerPoint Presentation Guidelines For Stock Market Game Receptions

In addition to winning student teams, their teachers, and family, receptions are attended by program sponsors and hosts, as well as school or district administrators and legislative representatives. To reinforce the benefits of The Stock Market Game program, Econ Illinois requests winning student teams to put on an informative presentation describing their learning experience through participation in the SMG program.

Students who are asked to present PowerPoint slide shows at their SMG awards receptions should follow these recommendations in order to ensure the presentations meet their intended purpose within the permitted reception time frame.

1. Include eight to ten slides.
2. Keep the slide format simple and maintain consistency from slide to slide. Use the same design or template, colors, font and possibly font size. Use a font size large enough for guests at the back of the room to clearly see the slide's text.
3. Keep text brief. **Do not bullet entire sentences – bullet a few words or brief phrases.** The slides should SHOW the information; the spoken word can TELL the information. The student's verbal presentation should convey the information in complete sentences. Team members should take turns to share the presentation dialog. Some students may speak more than others. Presenters should give viewers enough time with each slide to review and process the material. (This language arts tie-in, reinforces how to convey information in a phrase, as opposed to a full sentence.)
4. When including graphic elements or action (i.e. text slide-ins), include only elements that are meaningful or add value to the presentation. Avoid using elements just because they are "fun" for the students to use.
5. Keep the use of large graphic files to a minimum. Use no more than two photographs – the school and the student team are good uses of photographs.
6. Incorporate only graphs or charts (i.e. from finance.yahoo.com) that are meaningful and contribute valuable information to the presentation. Include no more than three graphs or charts total.
7. Do not include sound, as none of our current reception sites accommodate sound in presentations.
8. Do not use movie files. We cannot be guaranteed that the computer will be able to support these file types.

9. Divide the presentation into thirds as follows:

- a. **Opening** (1-2 slides suggested) - Suggestions for these slides include a slide of the school name; the team, with the students' names and possibly a photo of them in the classroom. Credit the team's teacher.
- b. **Body** (5-6 slides suggested) – This section should relay the student's experience with The Stock Market Game program. These slides should include information describing: how the team researched, how they reasoned, and how they made decisions. Show teamwork, cooperative learning and skill development, if that was a noteworthy outcome.

It may also include the names of the stocks that did well, stocks that did poorly, and a summary slide of their portfolio. Graphs or charts are encouraged, as long as the spoken dialog gives a brief explanation of the image. Students do not need to list every stock they purchased if the purchases were inconsequential to their overall performance.

Students are also encouraged to discuss the impact of any current events on their portfolios (i.e. a world event, stock merger, unexpected weather event, etc.).

- c. **Closing** (1-3 slides suggested) - These slides should conclude their presentation by demonstrating what the students learned throughout the session. They should describe how their experience with The Stock market Game program might influence their future saving and investing decisions.

The Closing should also include a thank you slide to all SMG program sponsors that relate to your region. Refer to Econ Illinois' SMG web site for correct names/spelling (<http://www.econed-il.org/icee/smg.shtml>). Thank the reception host as well as any other school staff instrumental in putting together the PowerPoint presentation or assisting with the SMG unit.

We invite you to look at previous winners' PowerPoint presentations for ideas on what to include. To view past presentations, go to http://www.econed-il.org/icee/smg_winners.shtml. Highly recommended are the Spring 2007 session's presentations.

Do not copy these presentations, rather use them for reference. Encourage your students to be creative while keeping within the guidelines listed above.

For questions, please contact Marty or Debbie at Econ Illinois at our toll-free number below.