# LESSON PLAN: "MIDDLE SCHOOL CONSUMER ACTION SCAVENGER HUNT"



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• GRADES: 7–8	
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TIME: 2–4 class periods	
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• SUBJECT: Consumer Economics	
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## **DESCRIPTION:**

This is a short-term project that will help students find useful consumer information. Students will use the worksheet provided to search for answers on the Federal Citizen Information Center's (FCIC) Consumer Action Website or in the **Consumer Action Handbook** (**CAH**). This fun and dynamic lesson will provide young consumers with information and tools that will be useful the rest of their lives.

## **OBJECTIVES:**

#### Short Term—

- To develop an awareness of FCIC's website and its usefulness
- To utilize the CAH to solve consumer problems

#### Long Term—

• To build students' confidence as proactive and informed consumers

### **MATERIALS:**

Access to the Internet to search the online version of the **Consumer Action Handbook** (**CAH**) at www. consumeraction.gov, or a print copy of the **CAH**.

### **PROCEDURES:**

Provide students with a copy of the "Consumer Action Scavenger Hunt" worksheet and ask them to answer the ten questions and complete the writing task at the end of the assignment. Instruct them to go to the FCIC website at www.pueblo.gsa.gov and click on the "Consumer Help" link. Students can also access the Consumer Action Website at www.consumeraction.gov. Access information is provided at the top of the student worksheet.

### **EVALUATION:**

Grade each worksheet for individual accuracy. Each answer is worth 1 point unless otherwise specified. The summary is worth 10 points. Possible score: 23

### **ANSWERS:**

For a teacher's copy of the lesson plan and answers, please contact us at www.pueblo.gsa.gov/emailus.htm. Include your name, school, e-mail address, and "middle school scavenger hunt" in your message.

Updated Spring 2009 Developed by Rosemary Cronin of LeMars Middle School, LeMars, Iowa.

# Middle School Consumer Action Scavenger Hunt Student Worksheet



Name:	Class:
Date:	Score:

Visit the Federal Citizen Information Center's website at **www.pueblo.gsa.gov**. Click on the "Consumer Help" link or directly type in the URL (**www.consumeraction.gov**). Or use a print copy of the *Consumer Action Handbook* (CAH) to complete the following assignment.

- 1. If you are solicited by teenagers selling items like candy or magazine subscriptions door-to-door what should you ask for?
  - a. Identification verifying the name of the company
  - b. The sales prospective
  - c. The address of the company selling the items
  - d. Both a and c
- 2. Your little brother is online all the time surfing and playing games. You know that kids can be taken advantage of while online and want to know more about protecting children's privacy on the Internet.

What act protects them? \_\_\_\_\_

Until what age?\_\_\_\_\_

3. True or False: According to Federal Trade Commission Telemarketing Sales Rule, it is legal for telemarketers to make calls after 8 a.m. and before 9 p.m.

4. Before you buy the used moped that you have just taken for a test ride, you need to have it inspected by:

- 5. Government programs can help provide some consumers with health care coverage. Which one of the following is a government-sponsored health program?
  - a. Medicare
  - b. Social Security
  - c. Veterans Administration
  - d. Food Stamps
- 6. What is telephone cramming?
- 7. True or False: Federal regulators limit your liability to \$50.00 if you report the loss of an ATM card within two business days, and limit your loss to \$250.00 if you report it after more than two business days.
- 8. You check Consumer Reports magazine before buying a gift for your brother. Why is this a good resource?
- 9. Your parents used a mail order catalog to buy you all the action figure accessories that you want to finish decorating your bedroom. It has been six weeks and your stuff has not arrived. Since no specific delivery time was stated in the catalog, how long does the company have to ship your order?
  - a. Within 10 business days
  - b. One month
  - c. Six weeks
  - d. Within 30 days of receiving your order
- 10. Everyone keeps telling you that you need to protect your private information such as your telephone number and where you live. Your parents warn you to keep financial information private, and you've recently seen a news release about people who steal credit cards and bank account numbers. List three things that you can do to protect your privacy.



Using the information that you found for one of the above questions, discuss how you found the answer, the usefulness of this information to consumers in general, and how you might use the information in the future.

Developed by Rosemary Cronin of LeMars Middle School, LeMars, Iowa.