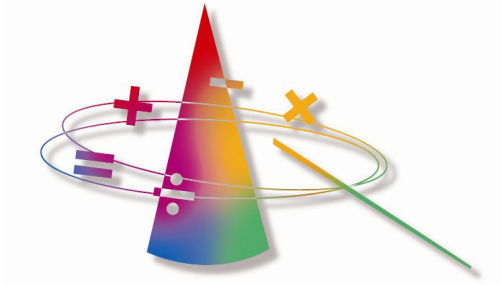


Archived Information



John Hancock Financial Services Financial Wizard...Partnering With Community

Financial Wizards brings math to life in the classroom! Volunteer math professionals visit the classroom once a month equipped with activity-based math lessons, creative supplies and materials to get students and teachers excited about math.

These trained volunteers, who use math every day in their professions, team up with classroom teachers to deliver a set of lessons in basic math concepts, money concepts, and financial markets. The lesson plans, for grades two through five, are activity based and encourage fun and interactive participation in the classroom. Outside of the classroom, the learning continues and relationships are strengthened with built in follow-up activities and e-mail communications between students and “Wizards”.

Financial Wizard lesson plans were created by math and educational professionals and reviewed by the Boston Public School Department and the U.S. Department of Education.

Financial Wizards was created through a collaboration of John Hancock Financial Services, The Actuarial Foundation and Education Development Center with the assistance of the U.S. Department of Education. The program was developed at the Samuel Mason Elementary School in Boston, MA with the involvement of educational and financial professionals, teachers, principals and parents to get students and teachers interested and excited about math.

The success of Financial Wizards in Boston has resulted in improved test scores and a better appreciation of math among students and teachers. This innovative math program has earned recognition from the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, the Department of Education and the Mayor of Boston. The Samuel Mason School was the only elementary school in Boston to have 100% of their fourth grade students pass the math portion of state mandated standardized exams in 2001.

For more information on this program please contact Hazel Kim, Senior Manager, Community Relations at John Hancock, hklee@jhancock.com or 617-572-5285.

