A Baker's Dozen Ideas to Give Kids an Appetite for Investing

- 1. Make birthday gifts of "investment" money instead of spending money. This could work for allowances too.
- 2. Read fun investment books together. A good place to start is **Stock Market Pie: Grandma Helps Emily Make A Million**, for beginning investors age 9 to 90.
- 3. Start or turn a savings account into an investing account. Do not keep savings in a checking account. (If under 18, it will be a Uniform Gift to Minors account and an adult name will appear on the account too.)
- 4. Take your kids to visit a stockbrokers' office. Pick up literature, ask questions, look at the market activity on the computer screens.
- 5. Pick a stock to study. Find an annual report, visit or call the company, sample the products, and then decide on a reasonable purchase price. Invest with real or imaginary money. If you actually buy, request the stock certificate be sent to you.
- 6. Some companies will allow you to purchase a few shares of stock directly from the company. Log onto the company's website and search for investor relations.
- 7. Start a DRIP account. After an initial stock purchase, some companies allow you to reinvest dividends and buy more stock on a regular basis. These are called DRIPs (Dividend Reinvestment Programs). Check www.dripinvestor.com.
- 8. Attend the annual stockholder's meeting of a local company.
- 9. Log onto entertaining websites on investing. Some good ones are:

 www.usmint.gov/kids

 www.orangekids.com

 www.sec.gov
- 10. Play a stock market game. Find one on-line: http://library.thinkquest.org/3088/
- 11. Start an imaginary portfolio of several stocks and keep track by charting results for a period of time. The investor with the best performing portfolio wins a prize.
- 12. Keep an investor journal and track companies you like. Read more about it at www.dynamindspublishing.com.
- 13. Play detective and find new start-up companies (or industries) that would make good stock picks. Use the Internet, visit the shopping mall, discover new products.



See www.dynamindspublishing.com for more ideas