

The logo for Banzai! is located at the top center of the page. It consists of the word "Banzai!" in a bold, stylized font, with an exclamation mark. The text is white and is set against a dark, rounded rectangular background. The entire page has a background of small dots.

Banzai!

Teacher's Guide

2025-2026

The website address "banzai.org" is located at the bottom center of the page. It is written in a simple, lowercase font. The entire page has a background of small dots.

banzai.org



Welcome to Banzai!

Banzai is an award-winning, interactive education platform that's educated millions of students. This curriculum prepares your class for real-world challenges surrounding personal finance, digital citizenship, entrepreneurship, and a future beyond high school. By using Banzai, you're joining the ranks of more than 14 0,000 educators committed to fostering an attitude of financial wellness, encouraging healthy and safe habits, and helping students move confidently toward their goals.



Curriculum Standard Fulfillment

Banzai satisfies curriculum standards in all 50 states. See how the curriculum aligns with yours at banzai.org/curriculum.



Gamified Education

With role-play based scenarios, challenging games, and whimsical illustrations, Banzai makes learning real-world skills fun and memorable.



Experience-Based Learning

Students gain practical knowledge that prepares them for real-life decisions and situations.



Trial and Error Scenarios

Students learn from mistakes and the unexpected consequences of their actions.



Self-Graded Content

Every game is automatically graded and student progress is easy to track with pretests, posttests, and visual decision trees.



Online and Offline Options

Banzai games and activities are available online and work on all devices. You can also use printable worksheets and physical workbooks for offline learning.



Easy Implementation

Banzai is modular and meant to supplement your lesson plan. Use as much or as little of the content as you need for your class.



Timely Content

Banzai is constantly releasing new content to make sure your students are up to date on important topics.



Support Network

The friendly teacher support team is available during school hours to help solve problems and answer questions.



Exceptional Accessibility

Vibrant colors, high contrast text, and other accessibility features make Banzai easy for all users on all devices.

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Need Help? There are multiple ways to get support.



Click the Chat button in the lower right corner of the Teacher Dashboard



Visit help.banzai.org



Email support@banzai.org



Call 888.822.6924
(Monday-Friday, 7am-3pm, PST)



Scan this QR code to schedule a demo to learn the ins and outs of teaching with Banzai.

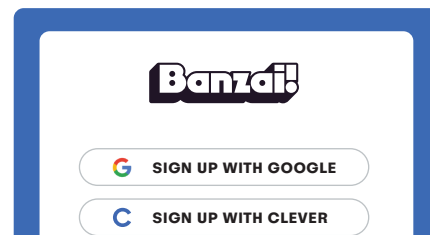


Getting Started

Ready to jump in? Follow these step-by-step instructions to get signed up, create a class, and explore the course catalog. When you're ready, send a link or class code so students can sign up.

Teacher Sign Up

1. Go to **banzai.org/teacher**.
2. Sign in with **Google, Clever, or ClassLink** or create a new account.
3. Enter your zip code and select your school.



Create a Class

A class in Banzai is a group of students all assigned the same content. This content could be all or part of one or more of the six Banzai courses: Elementary Personal Finance, Middle School Personal Finance, High School Personal Finance, College and Careers, Digital Citizenship, and Entrepreneurship.

The view will look slightly different depending on whether or not this is your first class, but the process is the same.

1. Select the course or courses you want to include in your class
2. Give your class a name and hit **Create Class**

Create a New Class

Class Name

e.g. 3rd Period

Courses

- ☐ **Elementary Personal Finance**
AGES 8-12
Can you make a profit? Manage your very own very own virtual lemonade stand to find out.
- ☒ **Middle School Personal Finance**
AGES 13-18
Take a practice run through the real-world as you create a budget and save for college registration.
- ☐ **College and Careers**
AGES 15-18
Learn about attending college and alternative pathways to success.

Elementary Personal Finance

Learn the basics of income, expenses, and borrowing.

- Topics: Interest & Fees, Loans & IOUs, Counting Currency, and more
- Games: Lemonade Tycoon, Vocabulary Practice

[+ Choose Course](#) [Try It Out](#) [→ Learn More](#)



Class View

This is your main hub for adding students, viewing student progress, and more. Let's go over a few basics...

- **Preview Curriculum** lets you preview the courses in this class.
- **Class Settings** enables you to manage what students see, the name of the class, and the class banner.
- **Unit Options** allows you to select the specific games included in the class and Lock and Unlock games within your selected courses for students, meaning you can control what they can play and when.
- **Edit Curriculum** allows you to add or remove courses from the class.

Classes
Toolkit
Workbooks
My Sponsor
My Account ▼

3rd Period

GR8M31 6 students

+ Add Students
Edit Curriculum
Preview Curriculum
Class Settings
... More

Students

Course: Middle School Personal Finance ▼
Unit: Life Scenarios ▼
Unit Options

Student ↓	Pretest	Life Scenarios	The Game	Posttest
Casey Jenkins @cjenk659	60% Complete	10% In progress	- Not started	- Not started
Jenny Kim @jkim123	32% Complete	3% In progress	17% In Progress	- Not started
Mallory Renshaw @mrens673	52% Complete	- Not started	11% In Progress	- Not started
Nate Berkley @nberk453	40% Complete	43% In progress	- Not started	- Not started
Rick Percy @rperc987	28% Complete	21% In progress	- Not started	- Not started
Sarah Moffat @smoff451	28% Complete	40% In progress	- Not started	- Not started



Add Students to a Class

1. Select one of your classes.
2. Select **+ Add Students**.
3. Click **Share the Code**. Copy the code and send it to students through your preferred method OR click **Send an Email** to send an email invitation. Compose the message and click **Send**.



3rd period

6 students GR8M31

3rd Period

GR8M31 6 students

+ Add Students

Edit Curriculum

Preview Curriculum

Class Settings

More

Students

Course

Middle School Personal Finance

Unit

Life Scenarios

Unit Options

Explore All Courses and Games

1. Click **Preview All Courses** on the Home page.
2. Select one of the Courses.
3. Choose the game you'd like to test or scroll down to review the included articles and worksheets.
4. Click **Return to Teacher Account** when you're finished.



Classes

Toolkit

Workbooks

My Sponsor

My Account

Your Classes

Grid View

List View

Preview All Courses

+ Create New Class

3rd period

GR8M31

6 students



Explore the Grading Interface

1. Select one of your classes.
2. Adjust the **Course** and **Unit** you're reviewing by changing it in the appropriate dropdowns.
3. Scroll down to see the class's progress within the game.
4. Click on an individual student to review their in-depth progress.
5. Within this view, you can also reset a student's password, remove them from your class, and reset their pre or posttest.

3rd Period

GR8M31 6 students

+ Add Students
Edit Curriculum
Preview Curriculum
Class Settings
More

Students

Course

Middle School Personal Finance

Unit

Life Scenarios

Unit Options

Student ↓	Pretest	Life Scenarios	The Game	Posttest
Casey Jenkins @cjenk659	60% Complete	10% In progress	- Not started	- Not started

Student Activity

Course

Middle School Personal Finance

Unit

Life Scenarios

Activity

Life Scenarios

Pretest

Life Scenarios

The Game

Posttest

Comments

Jenny

Fixed the car

Shopped for a new car

Chose the Impaling

Chose the Civicy

Chose the BMM

Jenny has played 17% of The Game.
You'll see your student's future progress here.



Courses and Units

Banzai's curriculum is organized into courses that focus on topics or age groups. Each course includes relevant games, calculators, articles, and worksheets that dive into specific aspects of the topic. Units include interactive, real-world simulation games where students practice decision-making, vocabulary games for mastering key terms, and self-graded pretests and posttests to help you easily assess student progress.

Entrepreneurship

This course teaches students the fundamentals of business creation and marketing while guiding them through developing their own ideas for a startup.

QuickBooks Simulations

30-45 min | Grades 9-12

Simulate managing finances and calculating taxes with Intuit QuickBooks to practice business ownership.

How Much Can My Business Make?

30-40 min | Grades 9-12

Balance expenses and earnings to make sure your business idea thrives.

Banking

45-90 min | Grades 6-12

Manage accounts, track loans, and stay afloat as you learn to run your own financial institution.

Digital Citizenship

In this course, students foster digital literacy, build online safety skills, and discover healthy technology habits.

Digital Dragons

45-90 min | Grades 3-6

Face internet dangers in fantastical ways while striving to protect the Kingdom of the Internet.

Digital Wellness Assessment

30-90 min | Grades 4-12

Complete a quiz that shows you how to improve your relationship with technology.

Internet Safety

1-2 hours | Grades 5-10

Navigate tricky, everyday online traps to survive to the end.

Digital Footprint

45-60 min | Grades 6-12

Take control of your online presence while tracking an unsavory character in this detective game.

Cyberbullying

30-90 min | Grades 5-10

Learn to recognize what cyberbullying is and what to do about it.

News Literacy: Deadline Deck

30-50 min | Grades 9-12

Oversee your school news team in a card-based game of editorial choices.



Personal Finance

Broken out for elementary, middle, and high school students, these courses give students the opportunity to embark on exciting adventures of budgeting, saving, debt management, credit building, and more.

Lemonade Tycoon

1-2 hours | Grades 3-6

Manage a budget, run a small business, and even take out loans while saving toward a goal.

Finance Summer Camp

1-2 hours | Grades 6-9

Learn about saving, spending, and sunscreen at camp—earn money and budget as you go.

Life Scenarios

1-2 hours | Grades 7-12

Save for the future and face unpredictable outcomes for each decision.

Advanced Budgeting

1-2 hours | Grades 10-12

Navigate big choices to learn how small decisions make a large impact on goals, credit, and more.

Consumer Smarts

60-90 min | Grades 6-9

Manage the family budget and learn practical skills for making informed spending decisions.

Banking

45-90 min | Grades 6-12

Understand how a financial institution works by running one.

Retirement: The Elephant in the Room

45-60 min | Grades 6-12

Simulate working at an elephant preserve while you contribute to a 401(k), and an emergency fund!

Stock Market Showdown

45-60 min | Grades 9-12

Learn the basics about the stock market and apply what you learned in a mathletes style competition.

College and Careers

This course guides students through crucial aspects of higher education and career exploration including real-world cost of attendance and finding a career field that suits them.

Cost of College

60-90 min | Grades 9-12

Learn the real-life cost for a year at college by taking the Grand College Expense Tour.

Paying for College

30-90 min | Grades 9-12

Make a plan to account for the cost of post-secondary education.

College Alternatives

60-90 min | Grades 9-12

Investigate three alternative paths to a successful career outside of attending a traditional college.

Scholarships

45-60 min | Grades 9-12

Search for real scholarships and prepare an outline for an application essay.

Soft Skills

60-90 min | Grades 9-12

Practice and master soft skills like teamwork and problem solving in a workplace setting.

Career Field Quiz

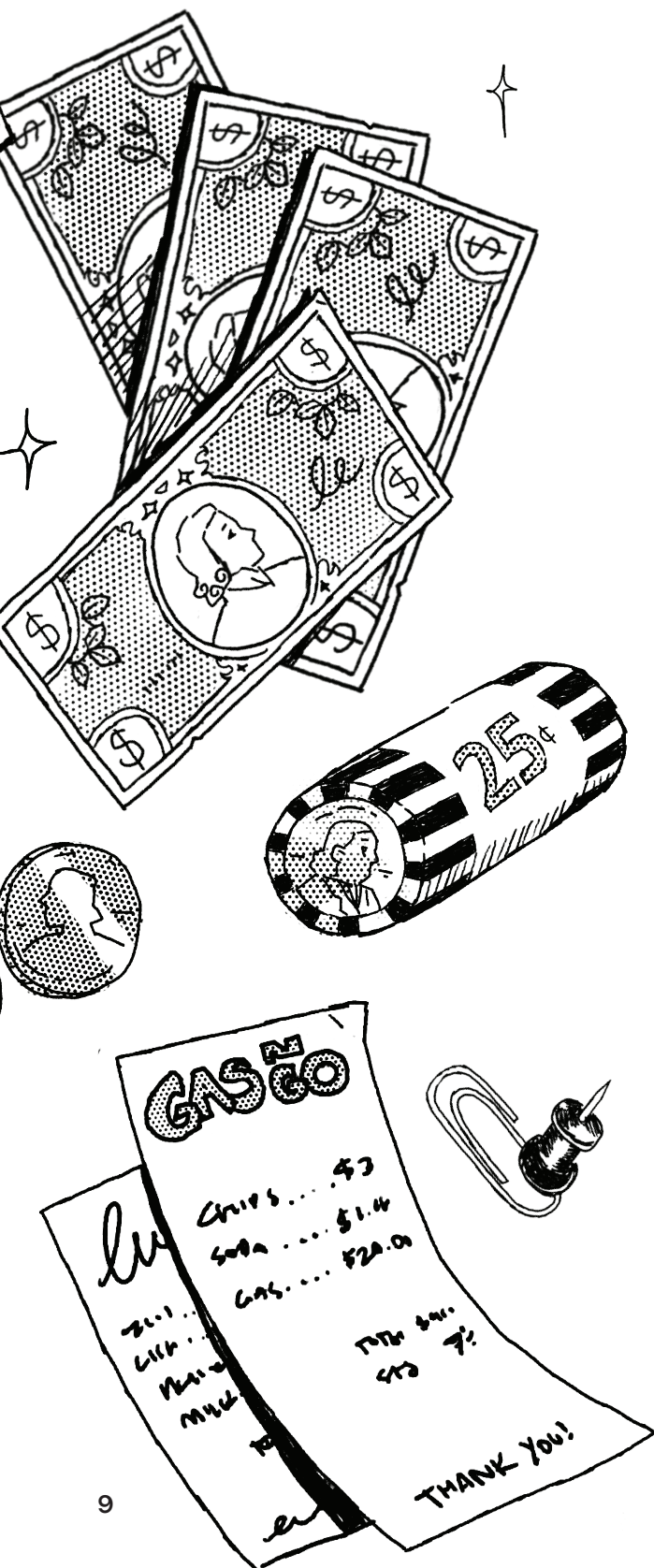
20-40 min | Grades 9-12

Identify career fields that align with goals and interests.



Workbooks

Supplementary workbooks correspond with Banzai's Personal Finance, Digital Citizenship, and College and Careers courses to challenge and expand learning.



Elementary Personal Finance

- Financial Vocabulary
- Adding & Subtracting Money
- Paying with Cash and Making Change
- Borrowing Money
- Microeconomics
- Saving

Plus the Banzai Swap card game!

Middle School Personal Finance

- Financial Vocabulary
- Lending & Financial Services
- Supply & Demand
- Budgeting
- Saving
- Credit & Debt
- Writing Checks
- Making Tradeoffs

High School Personal Finance

- Financial Vocabulary
- Cost of Living & Budgeting
- Paycheck Deductions
- How to Fill Out a W-4
- Credit Cards
- Health Insurance
- Economics
- Building Credit

Digital Citizenship

- Passwords & Privacy
- Dangerous Websites
- Clickbait
- Cyberbullying
- Scams
- Malware
- Digital Wellness
- Digital Footprint

College and Careers

- Resume Building
- Soft Skills
- Independent Living
- Networking
- Future Planning
- Time Management
- Interview Preparation



Teaching With Banzai

Teaching in the Classroom

The Banzai curriculum can be incorporated into many classes: Family and Consumer Science, Business, Finance, Math, and more. Adapt Banzai resources as needed to best support your students and teaching style. For example, some teachers work through games together as a class, others encourage students to take on the challenge individually.

Classroom Ideas

1. Hold a class discussion about Banzai learning outcomes that students can incorporate into their lives.
 2. Ask students to complete a workbook page with a partner or as a group.
 3. Give students multiple chances to “win” a game; between attempts discuss as a group.
-

Teaching Virtually

Because the courses are available completely online, Banzai is great for homework and virtual learning. Students can work through the games on their own and teachers can track their progress via the Teacher Dashboard.

Remote Ideas

1. Invite students to set a savings goal and make a plan to reach it.
 2. Ask students to sign up for one of the articles in the Library and create a 1-5 minute presentation on it. Hold a group call where students teach the rest of the class their topic.
 3. Assign students to work through the Library Challenges, which can be accessed through the Toolkit.
-

Substitute Teachers

Banzai is a great resource for teachers looking to fill a class period with a substitute. Students can work through courses and games independently, and teachers can track their progress when they return via the Teacher Dashboard. Or pick an idea below to supplement what students are learning.

Substitute Ideas

1. Play through a game together as a class, stopping for discussion about the different choices available.
2. Pick a vocabulary practice for students to complete and then host a class competition with the terms.
3. Assign worksheets from the Toolkit to students and see how many they can complete in a class period.



Additional Resources

With Banzai, there are tons of other powerful resources to implement into your lesson plan.

Library

Each Banzai course is packed with additional resources in the **Library** section. Students can access the entire resource library by clicking **Library** on the navigation bar. You can also access a full resource Library in the Teacher Toolkit.

Buying a home

Categorize a list of expenses as needs, wants, and savings, then color code them in a graphic. For grades 4-6.

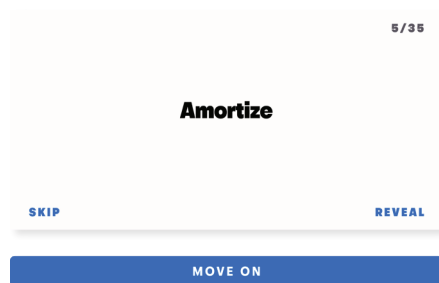
Emergency Fund

Read the 50/30/20 Budgeting article and use the Budget Calculator to help a part-time working student save for emergencies. For grades 6-9.

[Worksheet](#)

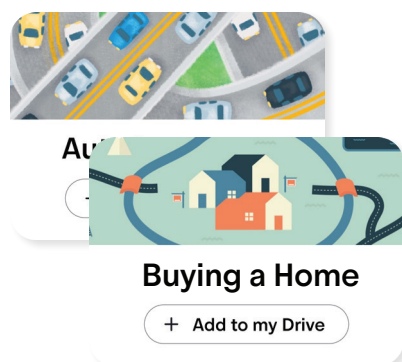
Worksheets

Narrow in on a specific topic or assign easy-to-grade homework with printable or editable PDF worksheets. Worksheets complement every course and expand on curriculum requirements.



Vocab Practice Games

These Vocab quizzes test student comprehension of key terms. They are designed to be replayed as often as the student wants to test their understanding or refresh their memory.



Library Challenges

The Library Challenges are reading comprehension and critical thinking assignments that encourage students to engage with the Library. Challenges are available in the **Toolkit** tab under **Library Challenges**. Follow these steps to assign Library Challenges:

1. Copy the challenge to your Google Drive.
2. Edit any questions or settings as you see fit.
3. Send the Challenge to your class by using the **Send** button in the upper right.

To grade the challenges, click the **Responses** button. If you're using Google Classroom, you can automatically import the grades by returning to the assignment in Classroom and hitting **Import Grades**.



Elementary Personal Finance

Elementary Personal Finance Crash Course (3 days)

Day 1

- Introduce Banzai and sign up students. (10-15 min)
- Take Lemonade Tycoon pretest. (10-15 min)
- Begin Lemonade Tycoon. (30-45 min)

Day 2

- Continue Lemonade Tycoon. (45-50 min)

Day 3

- Finish Lemonade Tycoon. (10-20 min)
- Complete Lemonade Tycoon Vocabulary Practice. (15-20 min)
- Take the posttest. (10-15 min)

Elementary Personal Finance Deep Dive (10 Days)

Day 1

- Introduce Banzai and sign up students. (10-15 min)
- Take Lemonade Tycoon pretest. (10-15 min)
- Discussion: Review the pretest with the class and answer questions.

Day 2

- Read the “Financial Literacy” and “Learning to Budget” articles. (10-15 min)
- Discussion: Why is financial literacy important?
- Read the “Earning Income” and “Spending Money” articles. (10-15 min)
- Discussion: Have you earned income before? How do you decide what to spend your money on?

Day 3

- Start playing Lemonade Tycoon. (45-60 min)

Day 4

- Continue playing Lemonade Tycoon. (30-45 min)
- Discussion: What have you learned so far? Any surprises or challenges?

Day 5

- Finish Lemonade Tycoon. (10-20 min)
- Complete Vocabulary Practice. (15-20 min)
- Complete Lemonade Tycoon posttest. (10-15 min)
- Discussion: How did the game go?

Day 6

- Start the Elementary Personal Finance workbook. (45-60 min)

Day 7

- Read the “Your First Account” and “Saving Money” articles. (10-15 min)
- Discussion: Why is an account at a financial institution important?
- As a class, decide on something to save for and use the “Interest & Savings” calculator to see how long it will take to reach it. (15-20 min)

Day 8

- Continue working on the Elementary Personal Finance workbook. (20-30 min)
- Complete the “Budgeting” worksheet. (15-20 min)
- Introduce the Banzai Swap card game. (10-15 min)

Day 9

- Have students play the Banzai Swap card game. (20-30 min)
- Have students interview each other using the “Interview a Grown Up” worksheet questions. (20-30 min)
- Assign the “Interview a Grown Up” worksheet for homework.

Day 10

- Finish the Elementary Personal Finance workbook. (45-60 min.)



Middle School Personal Finance

Middle School Personal Finance Crash Course (3 days)

Day 1

- Introduce Banzai and sign up students. (10-15 min)
- Take the pretest. (10-15 min)
- Play through Life Scenarios Warm-Up. (20-30 min)
- Begin playing Life Scenarios. (25-35 min)

Day 2

- Continue playing Life Scenarios. (45-60 min)

Day 3

- Finish Life Scenarios. (20-30 min)
- Take the posttest. (10-15 min)
- Homework: Ask students to complete a write up about what they learned and how it will change their approach to handling finances in the future.

Middle School Personal Finance Deep Dive (10 Days)

Day 1

- Introduce Banzai and sign up students. (10-15 min)
- Take Life Scenarios pretest. (10-15 min)
- Discussion: Go over the pretest with the class, answer any questions, and talk about how students currently interact with money.

Day 2

- Start the workbook. (45-60 min)

Day 3

- Play through Life Scenarios Warm-Up. (20-30 min)
- Read the “Quality vs Cost” article in the Library and complete the corresponding worksheet. (20-30 min)

Day 4

- Start playing Life Scenarios. (30-45 min)
- Discussion: What have you learned so far from the game? Have you run into any challenges? Was there anything that surprised you?

Day 5

- Continue playing Life Scenarios. (45-60 min)
- Assign students to complete the “Interview a Pro” worksheet as homework.

Day 6

- Finish Life Scenarios. (15-30 min)
- Take Life Scenarios posttest. (10-15 min)
- Discussion: How did the game go? Did you win? Why or why not? What did you learn?

Day 7

- Continue working on the workbook, assign students to work in pairs or as a group. (30-45 min)
- Play Consumer Smarts. (30-45 min)

Day 8

- Sponsor Classroom Presentation (*this can be requested through the Sponsor tab on your Teacher Dashboard).

Day 9

- Finish Consumer Smarts. (30-40 min)
- Complete the workbook, either individually or as a group. (10-20 min)

Day 10

- Divide students into groups and ask them to make and deliver a 3-5 minute presentation about the topic of their choice from the Library.
- Write up: What did you learn and how will it change how you approach handling your finances in the future?



High School Personal Finance

High School Personal Finance Crash Course (3 days)

Day 1

- Introduce Banzai and sign up students. (10-15 min)
- Take the pretest. (10-15 min)
- Begin Advanced Budgeting. (20-30 min)

Day 2

- Continue Advanced Budgeting. (45-60 min)

Day 3

- Finish Advanced Budgeting. (20-30 min)
- Complete Advanced Budgeting Vocabulary Practice. (15-20 min)
- Take the posttest. (10-15 min)

High School Personal Finance Deep Dive (10 Days)

Day 1

- Introduce Banzai and sign up students. (10-15 min)
- Take Advanced Budgeting pretest. (10-15 min)
- Start Advanced Budgeting. (20-30 min)

Day 2

- Start the High School Personal Finance workbook. (45-60 min)

Day 3

- Continue playing Advanced Budgeting. (45-60 min)

Day 4

- Finish Advanced Budgeting. (20-30 min)
- Complete Advanced Budgeting Vocabulary Practice. (15-20 min)
- Complete Advanced Budgeting posttest. (10-15 min)
- Discussion: How did the game go?

Day 5

- Read the "Credit Card Basics" article. (15-20 min)
- Complete the "Credit Cards" worksheet. (15-20 min)
- Discussion: What are the pros and cons of using credit cards?

Day 6

- Finish the High School Personal Finance workbook. (45-60 min)

Day 7

- Take Banking pretest (10-15 min)
- Begin Banking. (30-45 min)

Day 8

- Finish Banking. (30-45 min)
- Complete Banking posttest. (10-15 min)

Day 9

- Complete the "Auto Insurance" worksheet. (15-20 min)
- Complete the "Owning a Car" worksheet (15-20 min)
- Discussion: What did you learn about the cost of owning a car? How will that impact your future purchasing decisions?

Day 10

- Read the "Check it Out" article (15-20 min)
- Complete "Advanced Budgeting Game Review" worksheet. (15-20 min)
- Discussion: What did you learn and how will you improve your personal finance going forward?



Entrepreneurship Course

Entrepreneurship Crash Course (3 days)

Day 1

- Introduce the course and sign up students. (10-15 min)
- Take the How Much Can My Business Make? pretest. (10-20 min)
- Play How Much Can My Business Make? (30-40 min)

Day 2

- Take the How Much Can My Business Make? posttest. (10-20 min)
- Take QuickBooks Simulations pretest. (10-15 min)
- Play through Getting Familiar with Financial Statements. (10-15 min)
- Play through Sales Tax Calculator. (10-15 min)

Day 3

- Play through Managing Finances. (10-15 min)
- Play through Controlling Finances. (10-15 min)
- Take QuickBooks Simulations posttest. (10-15 min)

Entrepreneurship Deep Dive (10 Days)

Day 1

- Introduce the course and sign up students. (10-15 min)
- Work through Qualitative Research Worksheet. (30-45 min)

Day 2

- Take QuickBooks Simulations pretest. (10-15 min)
- Play through Getting Familiar with Financial Statements. (10-15 min)
- Discussion: What parts of the balance sheet were confusing? Why are these documents important?

Day 3

- Play through Sales Tax Calculator. (10-15 min)
- Discussion: What are other ways taxes impact a business's finances?
- Play through Managing Finances. (10-15 min)
- Discussion: What is the benefit of specifically tracking every incoming and outgoing transaction?

Day 4

- Play through Controlling Finances. (10-15 min)
- Discussion: Who is ultimately responsible if mistakes are made in a business?
- Take the QuickBook Simulations posttest. (10-15 min)
- Discussion: Review the four activities. Why is record keeping essential when running a business?

Day 5

- Complete Quantitative Research Worksheet (50-90 min)

Day 6

- Take How Much Can My Business Make? pretest. (10-15 min)
- Start How Much Can My Business Make? (30-45 min)

Day 7

- Take How Much Can My Business Make? posttest. (10-15 min)
- Take the Banking pretest. (10-15 min)
- Start Banking. (20-30 min)

Day 8

- Finish Banking. (15-30 min)
- Take the Banking posttest. (10-15 min)
- Discussion: What are your biggest takeaways from the last 10 days?

Day 9

- Assign students to come up with an idea for a business and make a 10 slide presentation about it.

Day 10

- Student Presentations.



Digital Citizenship

Digital Citizenship Crash Course (3 days)

Day 1

- Introduce Banzai and sign up students. (10-15 min)
- Take the pretests for Internet Safety. (10-15 min)
- Begin Internet Safety. (30-45 min)

Day 2

- Continue playing Internet Safety. (45-60 min)

Day 3

- Finish Internet Safety. (10-15 min)
- Complete Internet Safety Vocabulary Practice. (20-30 min)
- Take the posttest. (10-20 min)

Digital Citizenship Deep Dive (10 Days)

Day 1

- Introduce Banzai and sign up students. (10-15 min)
- Take the Digital Wellness pretest. (10-15 min)
- Discussion: Review the pretest with the class, answer questions, and talk about what the students know about internet safety.

Day 2

- Start the Digital Citizenship workbook. (45-60 min)

Day 3

- Play through Digital Wellness. (30-60 min)
- Take the Digital Wellness posttest. (10-15 min)
- Discussion: How does technology impact your physical and mental health? What steps can you take this week to improve your digital wellness?

Day 4

- Complete Internet Safety pretest. (10-15 min)
- Start playing Internet Safety. (45-60 min)

Day 5

- Finish Internet Safety. (30-40 min)
- Complete the Internet Safety posttest. (10-15 min)
- Discussion: What have you learned so far? Any surprises or challenges?
- Homework: Challenge students to set a goal to improve their use of technology over the last 5 days. Have students write a half page about their reactions, due by day 10.

Day 6

- Read “7 Internet Safety Rules” article in the Library. (20-30 min)
- Complete “Internet Safety Crossword” worksheet. (20-30 min)

Day 7

- Complete “Clickbait and Phishing” worksheet. (15-20 min)
- Take Cyberbullying pretest. (15-20 min)
- Start Cyberbullying. (10-15 min)

Day 8

- Finish Cyberbullying. (15-20 min)
- Take Cyberbullying posttest. (10-15 min)
- Take Digital Footprint pretest. (10-15 min)

Day 9

- Start Digital Footprint. (45-60 min)
- Take Digital Footprint posttest. (10-15 min)

Day 10

- Finish the Digital Citizenship workbook. (45-60 min)
- Discussion: What did you learn and how will you use the internet differently going forward?
- Students turn in homework assignment. Break students into groups to discuss what they changed and how it impacted them.



College and Careers

College and Careers Crash Course (3 days)

Day 1

- Introduce Banzai and sign up students. (10-15 min)
- Take Cost of College pretest. (10-15 min)
- Begin Cost of College. (20-30 min)

Day 2

- Finish Cost of College. (30-60 min)
- Take Cost of College posttest. (10-15 min)

Day 3

- Take Career Field Quiz pretest. (15-20 min)
- Play Career Field Quiz. (20-40 min)
- Take Career Field Quiz posttest. (15-20 min)
- Assign the “Career Exploration” worksheet as homework.

College and Careers Deep Dive (10 Days)

Day 1

- Introduce Banzai and sign up students. (10-15 min)
- Have students write one page summarizing their current post-high school plans. Ex: Do they plan to attend school? What will they study? Will they go straight to the work-force? What job do they hope to have?

Day 2

- Take Cost of College pretest. (10-15 min)
- Begin Cost of College. (30-45 min)

Day 3

- Finish Cost of College. (30-45 min)
- Take Cost of College posttest. (10-15 min)

Day 4

- Take College Alternatives pretest. (10-15 min)
- Start College Alternatives. (30-45 min)

Day 5

- Finish College Alternatives. (30-45 min)
- Complete College Alternatives posttest. (10-15 min)
- Homework: “Interview a Pro” Worksheet.

Day 6

- Take Paying for College pretest. (10-15 min)
- Begin Paying for College. (30-45 min)

Day 7

- Finish Paying for College. (15-20 min)
- Take Paying for College posttest. (10-15 min)
- Take Scholarships pretest. (10-15 min)

Day 8

- Play Scholarships. (45-60 min)

Day 9

- Take Scholarships posttest. (10-15 min)
- Take Soft Skills pretest. (10-15 min)
- Start Soft Skills. (30-45 min)

Day 10

- Finish Soft Skills. (30-45 min)
- Take Soft Skills posttest. (10-15 min)
- Discussion: What’s your biggest takeaway? What is one thing you can do now to prepare?
- Homework: Have students reevaluate what they wrote on Day 1. Have their plans changed? What have they learned this week that will help them reach their goal? What are their next steps?



Adapting Banzai

ADA Compliance

We strive to make all content on banzai.org accessible to vision-impaired users through screen readers. Banzai can also be used without a mouse. Scroll through options using Tab, press Enter to select an option, and press Shift + Tab to move backward.

Students in Special Education

Many middle and high school teachers with students in special education turn to Elementary Personal Finance games, like Lemonade Tycoon. The same core principles are taught, but the storyline and budgeting requirements are simplified. Consider working through other content as a class.

Gifted and Talented Students

For an extra challenge, try content designed for older students. Advanced Budgeting is the most challenging personal finance game.

Banzai in Spanish

The flagship personal finance games — Lemonade Tycoon, Life Scenarios, and Advanced Budgeting — are available in Spanish. Students using the Spanish version face the same decisions and answer the same test questions. As a teacher, you can track progress and grades in English or Spanish. Students can select Spanish courses when they sign up or change the language in their student dashboard by clicking **My Profile** and **Edit Profile**.



Pro Tips

Passwords

If you're worried about students forgetting their passwords...

- Encourage students to use their Google account during signup.
- Ask students to write down their login information in a designated notebook or in the front cover of their Banzai workbook.
- Consider asking your entire class to use a student ID or something similar as a password.

But, if a student does lose their password, resetting it is easy.

1. Select the appropriate class from your teacher dashboard.
2. Click the student's username.
3. Choose **Reset Password** in the upper right corner.
4. Ask the student to log in to their account.

After the student logs in, click **My Profile** then **Edit Profile** to change their password. Note: Because Banzai is fully FERPA and COPPA compliant, we cannot reset a student's password. This **MUST** be done by you, their teacher.

Going into the Red

In the Finance Summer Camp, Life Scenarios, and Advanced Budgeting games, the Big Adventure, Reserves, and Future Fund budgets can be positive or negative. If it goes into the red, that doesn't necessarily mean the student did something wrong. A negative budget shows that they didn't budget enough in another area and need to pull from these budgets in order to account for an unexpected expense.

Let's look at this in action: the student needs to pay for an emergency car repair but didn't budget enough in the car category to cover it. To account for this in their budget, they choose to subtract some of the money they have budgeted for the future. If they subtract more than they have set aside in that category, the budget will go negative.

If any of these budgets go into the red, students will need to allocate money to them in order to bring them back to a positive number, reach their goal, and win the game.

Receipts

Sometimes the amount students need to enter or subtract from their budget isn't obvious at first glance. For example, they could receive a bill where it gives them two options: pay now and it will only cost \$25, or wait and pay \$50 when the bill is due. This is to help encourage careful reading and familiarity with how receipts, bills, pay stubs, and other financial documents actually look. The game will let them know if they enter the incorrect amount. All images in the game include alt text, so a screen reader can read off important information for visually impaired students.



Two Part Scenarios

Some scenarios break a single expense into two separate transactions that the student must account for before they can move on. One example of this is #13 A and B in Warm-up. This transaction has a convenience fee and a withdrawal. The student needs to subtract \$40 from checking and add \$40 to cash, and then subtract the \$2.50 fee from checking. If a student is struggling with a two-part scenario, have them read through the receipt and prompt once more to understand what they may be missing.

Working Through Snags

The games aren't designed to be easy. Your students will grapple with unforeseen consequences, analyze receipts and pay stubs carefully, and tabulate budgets. If you have a student that's struggling, encourage them to try one of the following:

- Reread the question.
 - Zoom in on the receipt or bill by clicking on it and read through each line carefully.
 - Do something—anything (for example, try taking \$100.00 from Checking). This prompts the game to give them a hint to what the correct action is.
-

Starting Over

Because the games are challenging, it's unlikely that students will win on their first try, and we encourage giving students time to try again. Students can restart by logging in and selecting Start Over beneath the game. You can view each attempt separately by clicking on the student and navigating to the game.

If you would like students to retake the pre and posttests, reset them in the Teacher Dashboard. Select the class and student, choose either the **Pretest** or the **Posttest tab**, and select an **Activity**. Then click **Reset**.

Grading Banzai

All Banzai games are graded automatically. Each curriculum section includes a pretest and posttest to measure student improvement. The games themselves are realistic and challenging, and whether a student wins or loses, they'll learn valuable lessons. For this reason, we do NOT recommend grading based on any other metric outside of the assessments and completion percentage.

For more gameplay details, select a class and click **More** and **Download**. This will download a file that includes grading on assessments, the game, dollars saved (if relevant), and whether or not they "won" the game.

If you'd like to check students' decisions within each game specifically, use the Decision Tree. This outlines each choice made in the game and answers to quizzes. To access the Decision Tree, select a student in the grading interface and navigate to the game you'd like to view.



FAQ

How is Banzai free?

Banzai is made available to teachers and students at no cost by local banks and credit unions who sponsor schools. But your sponsor is not just a silent partner. You can request a classroom presentation or even a field trip to their institution to supplement your existing curriculum.

Any teacher can teach with Banzai for free, regardless of whether they have a sponsor. However, hard copies of the workbooks can only be shipped to teachers or schools that are sponsored. If your school is not currently sponsored and you place an order, Banzai will look for a sponsor and contact you as soon as one is secured.

How do I request a classroom presentation or field trip to my sponsor's institution?

In your Teacher Dashboard, select the Sponsor tab along the top navigation bar. From there, you can choose what type of presentation you would like to request.

Why do you have to account for everything twice in Finance Summer Camp, Life Scenarios, and Advanced Budgeting?

These games teach budgeting using the double-entry method. This means accounting for money earned and spent in actual funds (checking account, cash, and credit card) and in their budget.

This method teaches accountability and practical understanding of the impacts of financial decisions. Students can't just write off an expense or ignore the impact to their budget. Instead, they must decide how to account for it in their planning and actual funds.

Do my students have to enter their full names?

If students select that they are 12 or younger when signing up, they'll create a username. If students choose 13 or older, they'll be prompted to enter their first and last name. This is for your benefit while grading, but if you would prefer to have students enter a number or other username, they can. You'll just need to match their real name to the name they used to sign up to track their progress and grades.

What are badges?

As students work through the games, they may earn badges based on the decisions they make. Some badges celebrate good choices (you won, you paid off your debt, etc.) while some acknowledge mistakes and opportunities to learn (you didn't buy renter's insurance, you paid more than you needed, etc.). Therefore, a student's number of badges is not indicative of how well they did.

Privacy

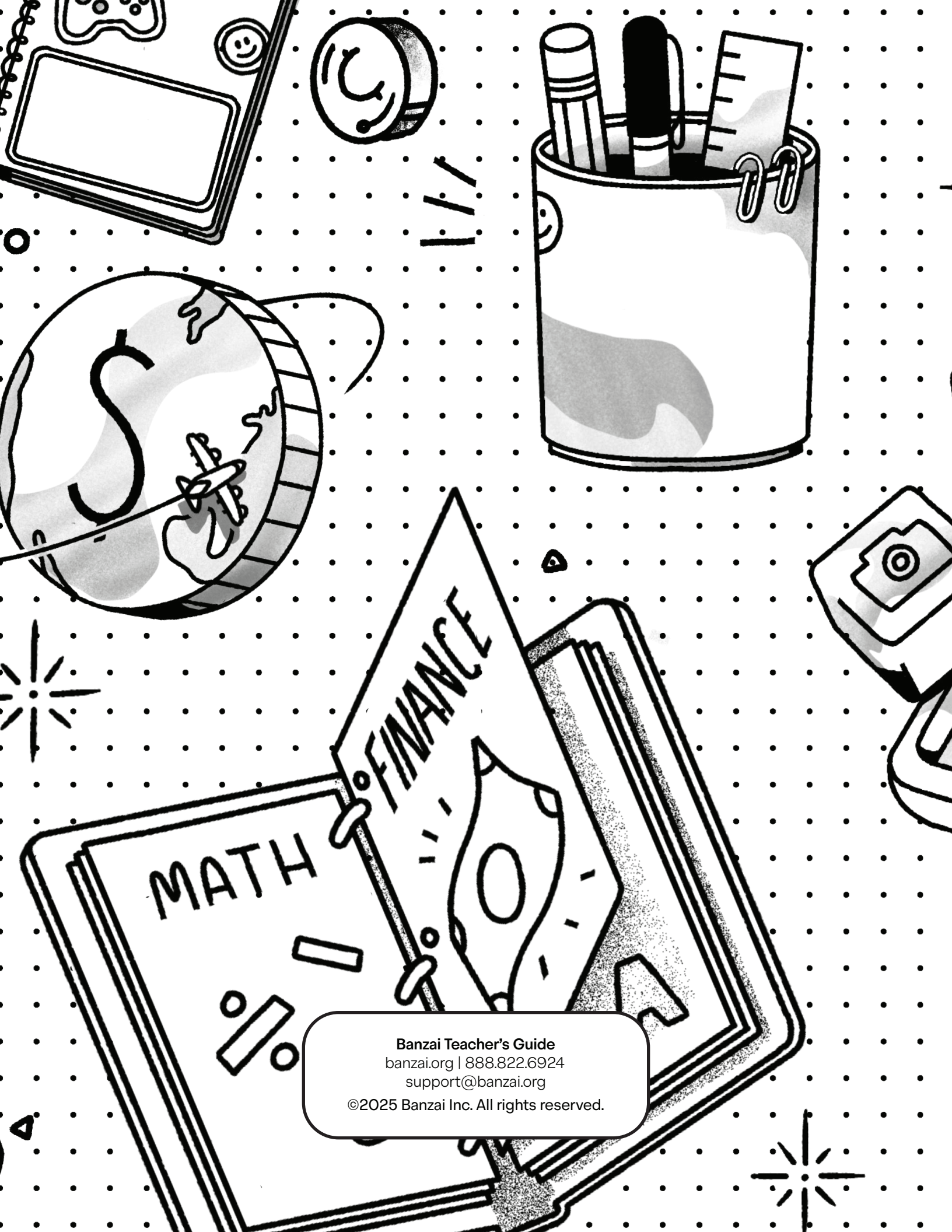
The driving principle behind the Banzai privacy policy is simple: the best way to secure data is to not collect it in the first place.

Banzai does not store personal identification information such as a student's age, location, gender, or ethnicity. The limited data Banzai collects is only used to deliver services and products or improve user experience. Banzai is COPPA and FERPA compliant and we will happily sign any required privacy agreements with schools or districts. Students' personal information is never shared with third parties. You can read the full Banzai privacy policy at help.banzai.org/article/57-privacy-policy or send questions to privacy@banzai.org.

Awards, Recognition, and Pledges

A sample of awards, recognition, and pledges Banzai has signed or achieved, reflecting its quality, effectiveness, and relevance in the classroom. These acknowledgments remind us of our commitment to supporting educators and promoting financial literacy.





Banzai Teacher's Guide
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