



## BIZ KID\$

### Episode 209: "The Green Economy and You"

#### Day Two Introduction

Play part of the theme music for "Biz Kid\$" from the episode intro to motivate and engage the students. Then stop the music, welcome the students/youth to today's session, and introduce yourself. If needed, ask students to please use their nametags.

#### Review and Connect with the Previous Session

One of the comments in this episode is "There's green in going green." Would someone volunteer what that phrase means to them?

(Allow all students who wish to comment to do so.)

See if they can repeat this sentence: "All around the world, people are establishing environmentally sustainable policies and innovative, eco-friendly business tactics with a positive impact on their bottom line."

The message of the "Green Economy" is that it's good for our well-being, as well as being financially rewarding.

We met Hunter, the Biz Kid also known as "Mr. Money Bags", who started the business "Project Kool". He sells all eco-friendly products; especially bags...lunch bags, grocery bags, tote bags, beach bags, and messenger bags. He has sold over 20,000 bags, and has made \$100,000 in income. His concern began with the amount of paper and plastic trash being thrown away at his school. He came up with an idea, a solution that would make a





difference. He believes that kids can make a difference by making simple changes.

There were college students from Dartmouth, Andrew, Nate, and Addie, the eco-educators who spent their summer traveling in the Big Green Bus. They teach "green living." The bus runs on waste, used vegetable oil from restaurants. It has a separate fuel system that costs more up front, but pays for itself over time. There were solar panels on top of the bus which supply power for all the electronics. They want people to be aware that they can still make money while making environmentally friendly choices.

One of the Biz Kid actors, Devon, replaced all the light bulbs on the set with high efficiency bulbs...OK, the green color was not so good! The new bulbs cost more initially, but they will also pay for themselves over time, as well as cut energy usage, saving more money!

Aleeya and Richa work for a non-profit organization called "Live Green, Learn Green." These young "eco-warriors", distribute energy efficiency kits to low income families. The goal is to improve their standard of living by reducing their energy consumption, thus saving them money.

We heard that there are lots of job opportunities for young people with eco-friendly businesses. One of the most significant contributions in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century will be alternative forms of fuel. Green job hunters Robert and Ashlee discovered that companies have a high demand for energy technicians, engineers, utility workers, apprentices, and also workers who can manage money, work in shipping, and have product knowledge. It's time for new ideas. All innovation is expensive at first, but more customers prefer to do business with a responsible company that is environmentally friendly in its products and practices.





One of the most amazing new developments is the creation of an eco-friendly product called "Greensulate." It was invented by two young entrepreneurial scientists, Gavin and Eben. Their motto is "People, Planet, Profit". "Greensulate" is a product made to replace Styrofoam and other polystyrene products. It is grown in a lab using mushroom roots; the cells grow in an agricultural mix, and then develop into a rigid board. Greensulate performs better than the old products, is renewable, and has a low cost of production. It also has multiple uses.

We learned that something as simple as using paper cups instead of foam cups can make a difference. Foam cups release toxins, don't biodegrade, and cause unnecessary waste.

And finally, we met Dan, aka "The Prince of Poop", who works at the Woodland Park Zoo. He showed how we can work with nature to use animal waste to create new uses, such as for garden compost. The zoo used to pay a lot of money to have the animal waste hauled away. Now they sell the compost at the Zoo Store, and make money on a product involving reusing and recycling! They save money and make money...a win win situation!

## **ACTIVITY**

I challenge you, as a class, to list at least ten things we can do to promote a "Green Economy."

(Using a blank OHP Transparency, record student responses.)

Suggestions may include:





- Use less polluting sources of energy (solar, wind, alternative fuels)
- Reuse products
- Reduce waste
- Recycle
- Buy local products
- Use your own eco-friendly bags instead of plastic or paper
- Ride a bike instead of driving a car
- Consider purchasing a hybrid vehicle
- Turn off lights in rooms not being used
- Turn off the water when brushing your teeth
- Follow anti-pollution regulations
- Purchase biodegradable products
- Purchase products made from recycled materials
- Use energy efficient light bulbs
- Use mass transit
- Learn as many skills as you can so you are prepared to work in the jobs being created by a "Green Economy"

(List as many ideas as students generate.)

Give students a moment to stretch, and then ask them to please be seated.

Tell students that they are going to use their imaginations to create an eco-friendly product.

They are to draw a prototype, name the product, and tell what it can be used for.

Students will receive large sheets of construction or drawing paper.

They'll also need their colored markers or colored pencils, and pens and pencils.





This is a “fantasy” or imaginary product they are creating today...but who knows???

Distribute large sheets of white or manila construction or drawing paper to all students.

Be sure they have colored markers or colored pencils, and pens or pencils.

Give students the rest of the period to work on the assignment.

(If teachers desire, they can extend the time to work on the “inventions”, and continue the project by using it for other purposes such as a science lesson, writing a business plan, estimating the cost of production, etc.)

Distribute the “**Family Activity Sheet**” and the “**Biz Terms**” Sheet for Episode 209 to all students to share with their families.

Thank students for their attention and participation in today’s session.

