

Maryland State Winner – Elementary School

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As I have worked through our first two months of the Stock Market Game, I have realized how much having a team helps. All five of us bring something to the table, even if it's something to lighten the tension of purchasing stocks. None of us have ever missed a day of stock market which already shows our commitment.

Working with my Stock Market Game team is always something to look forward to. Everyone comes ready with an idea of what to get done. Each team member adds something to our productivity. Whether it's calculating or managing money, researching on websites, practical thinking, analyzing our strengths and weaknesses, or taking a role in leadership, we all help in one way or another. All of these qualities help our team and Stock Market Game "team" do better each day.

When our team invests, we start by giving each team member a company to research. Then, we split up the research between two computers. After discussing what we found out, we buy or sell something depending on how it's doing. Our team is very good at communicating through our purchases or sales. This helps everyone get new ideas. We look into different sectors and build on our previous investments. Before purchasing anything, we find out what the company does and then think over it as a team.

When creating a portfolio of investments, I think it's a good idea to invest in all the different sectors of the stock market. Before investing, you have to do your research. Make sure you fully know what you are investing in. After that, make sure all the stocks are doing good in the long term. Now when you invest, you're prepared. Investing in different sectors is good for many reasons. If you have ever heard of the saying, "Don't put all your eggs in one basket," you will understand that putting your money in different types of stocks and sectors can really help.

If I had \$10,000 to invest into stocks, bonds, and mutual funds, there would be many things I would invest in. First, I would invest in Arista Networks and T-Mobile. These are both network and cloud-network companies. Next, I would invest in PepsiCo, a food company. Then, I would invest in Apple. Something from the technology sector would help keep my investments diverse. Also, I would invest in Nike, a shoe company. Finally, I would invest in Netflix. All these stocks from different sectors help build a strong team.

These companies I have selected each had particular strengths. Arista Network (ANET) is very popular and on the news a lot. It is also good in the short and long term. T-Mobile (TMUS) is also on the news and good if you save it overtime. PepsiCo (PEP) is active and changing a lot and good in the long term. Apple (APPL) is doing well if you keep it for a long period of time and is on the news of multiple sites. Netflix is very active in the 52-week range and is again, good in

the long term. Lastly, Nike is quite active and does well over time. Over time, these companies seem to do well and are all very popular, meaning they would create a strong and good team.

When I was selecting these stocks, I had many things in mind. As I said before, I wanted to invest in MANY sectors. I invested in the Telecommunication Services sector, the Consumer Staples sector, the Information Technology sector, the Consumer Discretionary sector, and many more sectors. I definitely put “my eggs” in “different baskets” for this. Next, I knew the stock I chose had to be very active. Just like in math, you want an investment you can count on to do well, like a constant, and an investment you know will be changing and active, like a variable. Lastly, I wanted the companies I selected to have lots of publicity. When companies are on the news a lot, they tend to do very well.

In conclusion, while writing this essay, I realized that my team in the stock market is very similar to the team of stocks I created here. They all add something to the end goal. When everyone's qualities come together, it creates exactly what you want. That is what teamwork is all about.