Econiful Simulations for Introductory Economics

INTRODUCTION: Econiful offers a full one-semester curriculum for high school economics. These simulations can also, with minor adjustments, be implemented in college-level principles courses.

Unit 1: Economic Foundations

Introduction to the PPF (Lesson 1.8)
Students create a panda bookmark or a tiger bookmark and use the resulting data to create and analyze a production possibilities frontier.

Unit 2: Microeconomics

Coffee Market (Lesson 2.1)
Students take on the role of buyers and sellers of coffee to discover that prices are determined by interactions between buyers and sellers.

Introduction to Firms (Lesson 2.3)
Working groups, students take on the role of firms making and selling hats to learn how firms make production decisions and calculate profit.

Introduction to Market Failure (Lesson 2.10)
Students participate in or observe a logging simulation that illustrates the tragedy of the commons and one solution to the problem of market failure.

Unit 4: Global Connections

Investments That Drive Economic Growth (Lesson 4.3)
Through a digital simulation and debrief students explore how investments in public health and education boost productivity and drive economic growth.

Why Trade is Sweet (Lesson 4.8)
Students participate in a trade simulation to explore how voluntary exchange increases efficiency and improves outcomes, with a debrief highlighting both the advantages and challenges of international trade.

Unit 5: Personal Finance

Introduction to Budgeting (Lesson 5.8)
Students are challenged to create a balanced budget in this station-based simulation.