



ONLINE: Thrifty Classroom

“I got some creative ideas for improving my classroom on a low budget from this course!”

– Josh T.

How can teachers ensure that the quality of education is not compromised by their budget? Why is there a need for teachers to change their outlook and how can they make optimal use of what they have? How can STEM be implemented on a low budget?

Through the resources, research-validated strategies and suggestions presented in this course, teachers will be equipped to handle tight budgets, and be frugal in their classrooms by turning to alternative resources. Further, teachers will be provided practical tips that will allow them to adopt methods to make the most of what they already have, end up saving money and still have the needed supplies to provide a quality education.



Rich in examples, scenarios, suggestions and tips, this course will help teachers learn valuable life skills to enrich their own learning environment.

Standards:

This course aligns to all of the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Differences, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge, Assessment, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

The course also aligns to the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Diverse Learners, Teachers Know Content and Teachers Facilitate Learning.

Each self-study PD course from Professional Learning Board includes:

- **Convenient access** anytime, anywhere, any device
- Interactive **online** textbook
- Implement **practical suggestions** immediately
- Demonstrate comprehension with **quizzes** and checks for understanding
- Print **certificates** of completion
- Easily assign courses to align with each teacher's **personalized PD needs**
- **Integrate** with school and district-wide initiatives
- **Low cost solution for all courses, all teachers, all school year**
- **Reports** for school administrators



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Course Outline

LESSON 1

A Thrifty Classroom and a Thriving Learning Environment

- Recognizing the challenges of maintaining the quality of instruction at the school level.
- Importance of meeting standards in education.
- A look at the critical elements necessary to effectively leverage technology for learning.
- Understanding the need to change teaching approaches within limited budgets.
- Recognizing the need to learn financial management, and being creative in locating alternative resources.

LESSON 2

Making the Most of What You Have

- Learning to make optimal use of available resources.
- Understanding the need to change your outlook and make optimal use of what you have.
- A look at useful, inexpensive and ingenious tips for a no-budget dream classroom.
- Identifying and implementing projects to redecorate and refurnish the classroom.
- Understanding and implementing the 3Rs of minimal waste: recycle, reuse and reduce.

LESSON 3

Thrifty Classroom Supplies

- Tips for connecting with parents and community members for donations.
- Using interpersonal skills to connect with organizations that give donations or low-cost supplies.
- Identifying government agencies, nonprofit organizations and local businesses that give free student supplies.
- Networking with teachers, parents and alumni.
- Identifying online sources for donations and discounts.
- Maximizing limited technology to save costs.

LESSON 4

Thrifty Learning Projects

- Learning to integrate low-cost field trips and utilize virtual tours.
- Incorporating the use of local materials for classroom learning.
- Understanding the importance of integrating STEM education into schools.
- Understanding the importance of collaborating with other teachers for supplies and teaching aids.
- Finding ways to involve the community in enriching student learning at little to no cost.