



## Global Economic Crisis Resources

How did it happen? These lesson plans and individual resources explore the causes, the repercussions, and the personal impact of the 2008 global economic crisis.

### Background

- [The Giant Pool of Money](#)
  - Summary: An hour-long radio program from *This American Life* explains the chain reaction that created the global economic crisis. Interviews with homeowners and bank workers add humor and enlightenment.
  - [NPR's condensed, thirteen-minute version](#)
  - Common Core: A great way to explore and understand the often confusing vocabulary surrounding the economic crisis.
- [Money, Power & Wallstreet](#)
  - Summary: This PBS Frontline documentary examines the global financial crisis in four sessions, each an hour long.
- [Debt Web](#)
  - Summary: An interactive graphic depicting debt connections between big world economies, including Japan, the United States, and European Union countries. Includes statistics on each country's debt and risk level.
  - Common Core: Strengthen students' ability to integrate technical analysis with qualitative analysis by having them evaluate the key trends depicted in the graphic.
- [Eurozone Crisis Explained](#)
  - Summary: This flowchart from BBC News uses graphics to explain how the European crisis unfolded—and the choice countries now face between austerity measures and stimulus spending.

### A Closer Look

- [Japan: Living in an Internet Café](#)

- Summary: This article and photo slideshow explain the effects of the global economic crisis on Japanese workers—namely, rising unemployment for many and overwork for others.
- Common Core: A great way to examine the impact of the financial crisis on individual lives and to analyze cultural experiences outside of the United States. RL.6.
- [The Frontline Interviews](#)
  - Summary: A collection of videos and transcripts providing an insider perspective on the financial crisis. Those interviewed include bank CEOs, White House advisers, and Greek finance minister Giorgos Papakonstantinou.

## Lesson Plans

- [Globalization and the Economic Crisis](#)
  - Summary: In this one-day lesson students analyze political cartoons to understand the connection between globalization and the economic crisis.
  - Common Core: Grows student ability to summarize and analyze key ideas and details. Relevant to reading standards through emphasis on familiarizing students with diverse formats.
- [Inside the Meltdown](#)
  - Summary: This PBS lesson plan includes links to the film *Inside the Meltdown*, discussion questions for the film, and additional homework activities.

## The Future

- [Global Powerhouses Sputter and Stall](#)
  - Summary: A three-minute video about the effect of the economic crisis on the BRIC (Brazil, Russia, India, China) countries. Argues that the US is now in a position to lead the global economy again.
- [Global Protests](#)
  - Summary: This Room for Debate topic from the *New York Times* explores the Occupy Wall Street movement through short opinion articles. Participants compare the movement to protests worldwide and consider its impact.
  - Common Core: Develop speaking and listening skills by having a classroom debate after reading the different perspectives. Build on craft and structure skills by assessing differing views on the same event.