Excel – Advanced Activities

You are now ready to test your mastery of Microsoft Excel! Choose and complete one of the following activities.

***Activity List Ideas:***

**1. Population:** Compare the population of states/countries and research how this has changed over time. What has happened in your own state? Create a chart to show the change. Research the change to explore why the population has changed. Propose two or three reasons why you think it changed and support your position with research.

**2. Paycheck decode:** Create a spreadsheet with the first column titled Job, and the second column titled Salary. Enter the jobs and salaries from three different types of jobs you might be interested in. You can use starting salaries located at this resource

<http://www.themint.org/teens/starting-salaries.html>

Then view the information on decoding your paycheck

<http://www.themint.org/teens/decoding-your-paycheck.html>

Notice the date this sample is based on (06). You will need to locate the actual percentages which are accurate now. List these items in columns to the right your first two columns: Federal Income, Tax, FICA Medicare, State Income tax, FICA Social Security, Health Insurance. Enter in the percentages and calculate the actual (Net) amount you will receive after all of the taxes.

**3. Stock Market:** Pick two or three stocks on the stock market. You might pick companies you own something made by them (such as Apple, Sony, Samsung...). Create a spreadsheet to track how the stock price rises or drops. Pretend you own 100 shares of each stock. Track the price daily, weekly or monthly for a period of time. Create a graph showing how your investments compare. Did one stock outperform the others? Is there a reason why (explain – not just a “yes” or “no”)? Talk with someone that invests for their ideas. If you like this you might want to play a stock market game on the web such as:

<http://www.youngmoney.com/stock-market-game/>

**4. Climate change:** Research the climate change over the past 100 years, including the location you live in. Pick some records, such as the high, low, most rainfall, most snowfall, and such. Collect the information for your location and two other locations (perhaps one you think you might want to move to, or a place you visited, or a place a relative lives).

**5. Olympic records:** Pick a few (4+) favorite Olympic events and create a spreadsheet of the record times over the past 4 Olympic Games. Track who set the record, the year, which event it was, and medals won.