

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Due Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**“The Math of Stocks”**  
*A Stock Market Project*

**Stock Market Overview:**

- Owning stock means owning a small piece of a company
- Stock prices move up and down every day because of people’s expectations about what is going to happen to the company (how profitable it will be in the future).
- Stocks trade between 9:30am and 4:00pm every weekday.
- The closing price is the price of that stock at 4:00pm.
- Company news and industry news (news about the industry that the company is a part of) can greatly affect the stock price.

**Task:**

**1. Choose a stock-You may choose any stock that you want.** Below is a list of sample stocks that you may want to choose from, but are not limited to picking from.

**Sample Industries & Stocks:**

Telecommunications: Nokia Corporation (Ticker: NOK)	Media: America Online (Ticker: AOL)
Retail: Walmart Stores Inc. (Ticker: WMT)	Airlines: Continental Airlines Inc. (Ticker: CAL)
Automobiles: General Motors Corporation (Ticker: GM)	Computers: Dell Inc. (Ticker: DELL)
Communications: Verizon Communications (Ticker: VZ)	Computers: Microsoft Company (Ticker: MSFT)

**2. Track the closing price of the stock for 10 weekdays**

Go to *finance.yahoo.com* (or any other appropriate website) and type in your company to get the closing price each day (the “Historical Data” link will give you a list of all the days). This page also includes information about your company (look at the links on the left of the screen).

You may also use a newspaper to find the closing price. You will be tracking the “Prev Close” and “Close” – **NOT THE PERCENTS** – See example below:

<b>General Electric Company (GE) - NY</b>	
<b>25.48</b>	<b>+0.16(0.61%)</b> 1:42P
Prev Close:	25.64
Open:	25.66
Bid:	25.47 x 11300
Ask:	25.48 x 5300
1y Target Est:	29.00
Beta:	1.14
Next Earnings Date:	23-Jan-15

**3. Calculate the percentage change for each of the 10 days.**

*\*Round to the nearest thousandth\**

$$\frac{\text{Change in closing price}}{\text{Starting closing price}} = \frac{\%}{100}$$

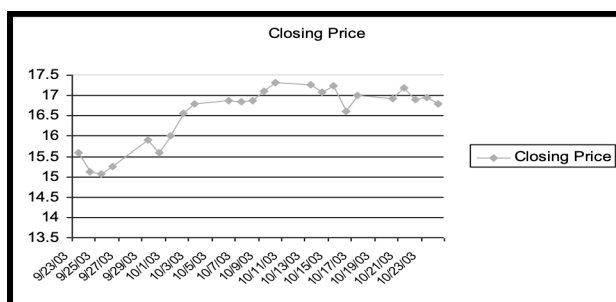
*You will find the percent change from Day 1 to Day 2, Day 2 to Day 3, Day 3 to Day 4, etc. Note – you will only have 9 percent changes – because you will start with Day 1 – Day 2.*

**4. Make a table representing the percent change from one day to the next. You may type the calculations, but all work leading to the percent change must be shown for calculating the percent change. (use a calculator; round to the nearest thousandth) *Here is an example of the table format.***

**Verizon Communications (VZ)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Closing Price</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>
10/31/2017	47.87	-
11/1/2017	47.83	- .084%
11/2/2017	47.46	- .774%
11/3/2017	47.42	- .084%
11/6/2017	45.53	- 3.986%
11/7/2017	45.57	+ 0.088%
11/8/2017	45.46	- .241%
11/9/2017	45.07	- .0858%
11/10/2017	44.88	- .422%
11/13/2017	44.22	- .624%

**5. At the end of the 10 days, create a line graph of the closing stock prices.** This graph should **NOT** be computer generated. Choose an appropriate scale and interval. **BE SURE TO INCLUDE A BREAK IF YOU DO NOT BEGIN your graph ON ZERO!!!** Here's an example: (you will do it by hand)



**6: Informational Essay:**

*Write an essay describing your stock and its performance*

- **Introduction:**  
 Include a short description about your stock.  
 Include what type of stock it is and how we use it in our lives.
- **Body Paragraphs:**  
 Which day has the biggest percentage increase/decrease?  
 Why did the stock move the most on that day?  
 What affects stock change? (you can research this online)  
 How did your stock perform?  
***Calculations must be used as evidence in your statements.*** For example, if you say that your stock increased the most on October 14, include the actual change as evidence.
- **Conclusion:**  
 Wrap everything up and explain what you learned in this project.

**Project Format:**

**Make sure your name and class appear on EVERY page:**

**Page 1 – Cover with Project Title/Stock Name/Your Name/Class**

**Page 2 - table representing your closing price and percent change one day to the next with all calculations**

**Page 3 – Line Graph that shows closing prices**

**Page 4 – Essay (should be at least one page – typed 12- point font- Times New Roman – double spaced)**