

Duration: 20 minutes

Roles:

- Narrator (1)
- Company A: CEO, CFO, Team Members, Venture Capitalist
- Company B: CEO, CFO, Team Members, Venture Capitalist
- (Optional: Add as many Team Members for each company as desired)

Learning Objective:

Students will act out a short script that demonstrates how giving away shares of a company to a venture capitalist affects who has the power to make decisions.

Materials Needed:

- Printed scripts (below)
- Share cards labeled "1 Share" (10 per company)
- Voting paddles or simple thumbs-up/thumbs-down signs

Wrap-Up Discussion (3–5 minutes)

Ask students:

- Which company had more control over their business?
- What did you learn about giving away shares?
- Would you take more money and lose control—or take less and keep more power?

Takeaway:

This simple theater exercise helps students understand:

- What shares of stock are
- How venture capital works
- That more shares = more control
- And that sometimes money comes with strings attached

Reader's Theater:

Who's the

boss

Now?

Script: "Who's the Boss Now?"**Narrator:**

Welcome to the BizWorld Mini Market, where two student companies are preparing to launch their amazing products! Each company starts with 10 shares of stock. These shares give them voting power to make important business decisions.

Let's meet our companies!

CEO A:

We're Company A, and our product is the Turbo Slime Launcher! It's messy, wild, and kids love it.

CEO B:

And we're Company B, proud creators of the Rainbow Zipper Hat! It's cozy and colorful and hides your snacks inside.

Narrator:

Both companies want to raise money to build their products. So they go to a Venture Capitalist to ask for an investment.

Venture Capitalist A:

Hmm, Company A—I'll give you \$10 if you give me 6 of your 10 shares.

CEO A:

Wow! That's a lot of money. Sure! We'll take it.

(Hands over 6 shares to the VC.)

Venture Capitalist B:

Company B—I'll give you \$5 if you give me just 2 of your 10 shares.

CEO B:

Sounds fair! We want to keep control, so we'll accept.

(Hands over 2 shares to the VC.)

Narrator:

Now both companies are ready to vote on their next big decision: Should the company make their product in only one color to save money—or make it in 5 fun colors even if it costs more?



CFO A:

Let's vote! I think we should make it in 5 colors—kids will LOVE it!

Team Members of company A:

Yes, let's be fun and colorful!

Venture Capitalist A:

Nope. I own 6 shares, and I say we save money and only use one boring color. That's final!

(VC raises all 6 votes.)

Narrator:

Company A just learned something important. Even though they started the company, the venture capitalist has the most shares—and the final say.

CEO A:

Hey! That's not fair. Now we're selling boring gray slime!

Narrator:

Let's see what happens at Company B.

CFO B:

I vote for 5 colors!

Team Members of company B:

Me too! Kids will want to buy every color!

Venture Capitalist B:

I'd rather save money, but I only have 2 shares. You win this round.

Narrator:

Because Company B kept more of their shares, they kept control of the company—and got to make the fun, creative decision.

PART 1: What Happened?

1. How many shares did company A give to the venture capitalist?

- 0 2 6 All of them

2. How many shares did company B give to the venture capitalist?

- 0 2 6 All of them

3. Who got to make the final decision for company A?

- The CEO The Team The Venture Capitalist

4. Who got to make the final decision for company B?

- The CEO The Team The Venture Capitalist

PART 2: What Did You Learn?

5. What are **shares** in a company?

- Pieces of candy
 Parts of the company you own
 Dollars you spend at the store

6. What happens when you give away a lot of your shares?

- You get more power
 You keep all control
 Someone else can make decisions for your business

7. Why might a company want a venture capitalist to invest?

- To get free stickers
 To get money to grow their business
 To give away their ideas

PART 3: What Would YOU Do?

8. If you started your own business, would you give away a lot of shares or keep most of them? Why?

9. What's something you could create and sell in your own business?

10. Would you want to be a CEO or a Venture Capitalist? Why?
