

## Investment Lessons from “Groundhog Day”

The financial markets over the past few years remind me of the iconic 1993 movie “Groundhog Day.” In the movie, Bill Murray’s character (Phil) must relive the same day over and over again until his general attitude and approach to life changes.

Investing is similar to “Groundhog Day” because the stock market reflects a cycle of repeatable events that tend to happen again and again but in slightly different ways. We do not have the opportunity of reliving a day to better our investment returns, but we can learn from our past experiences. Like in the movie, you have to discover



which factors can and can’t be changed to get a new outcome.

There are no magic formulas or investment strategies that work in all types of market environments. It is therefore important that investors develop the right attitude and be willing to change an investment approach to avoid repeating the same mistakes. The most important lesson

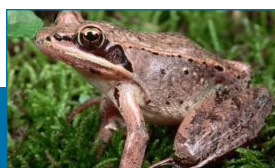
from the movie is you have to be ready to change. If what you’re doing isn’t working, it’s probably time to try something different to achieve a different outcome.

Sometimes an outcome can’t be changed, like when Phil tried over and over to save the homeless man’s life but couldn’t. He finally realized that despite his best effort, he could not change the outcome. Therefore, he accepted the loss and moved on.

Similarly, you can’t control the direction of the market, or whether Punxsutawney Phil will cast his shadow, but you can monitor market trends and specific price action. For example, when the market is trending higher or lower, you can notice those sectors or companies that are moving opposite the trend, which tends to cast a shadow on future price movement.

“Groundhog Day” shows us how to manage our own loop. We learn from our experiences each day—which, as Phil learned, is a huge accomplishment since old habits die hard. To embrace change can be a defining moment in your investment journey.

To quote Phil when he finally wakes up from his time loop: “Anything different is good.” The key is to embrace change, focusing on things that you can control.



### THAT REMINDS ME OF A *story...*

As a group of frogs were traveling through the woods, two of them fell partway down a deep pit. When the other frogs saw how deep the pit was, they shouted to the two frogs that there was no hope left for them. The two frogs tried to jump out anyway. But eventually, one of them took heed of the others’ comments and gave up, falling to his death.

The other frog continued to jump as hard as he could, in spite of the other frogs yelling at him to stop the pain and just die. To their surprise, he eventually made it out. When the other frogs asked him why he never gave up, they realized he was deaf. The entire time, he’d thought they were encouraging him to give it his all!

Moral of the Story: **Encouraging words create a positive attitude.**

### SUCCESSFUL *entrepreneur*

## Lionel “Leo” Messi: Small Doesn’t Mean Weak

Lionel “Leo” Messi, one of the greatest soccer players of all time, was born in Rosario, Argentina in 1987. He was one of the smallest growing up, often bullied and pushed around. On his first day of school, Leo was told he was too fragile to play soccer. To prove that he was as good and



strong as the other players, he put on an incredible dribbling display. Soon, the other kids learned that taking the ball away from him was no easy feat and no matter how hard they knocked him down, he always got back up.

As the other kids grew an inch or two each year, Leo stayed the same height. When he was eleven, he discovered he had a growth hormone deficiency that required him to take injections into his legs every night.

But soon the family ran out of money to pay for his treatments. Leo didn’t let that stop him. He grabbed a video camera and recorded himself juggling oranges with his feet as if they were soccer balls. He sent the video to FC Barcelona, who offered him a tryout.

At the tryout, Leo was once again the smallest player. But on the field, his dribbling and goal scoring ability shone through. FC Barcelona was so eager to sign him that they wrote his first contract on a napkin.

Being small didn’t make him weak, but rather more determined. He went on to lead the Barcelona team to numerous titles, won the World Cup for Argentina, and currently plays in the U.S. for Inter Miami CF.

As Leo said, “when you lose, you get up, you make mistakes, and you learn.”

## How to avoid being pickpocketed

Pickpocketing is one of the oldest and most widespread crimes in the world. When you're traveling, a pickpocket can easily ruin your trip by taking your money, credit cards or passport. A good pickpocket can pick you clean, and you'll never know it until it is too late.

Pickpockets primarily use distraction tactics. This includes spilling a drink, dropping change, suddenly bumping into you or asking you to take a picture of them. They rarely act alone and usually carry a jacket or newspaper to cover stolen items. Pickpocket hotspots are usually in crowded public areas like trains, airports, buses, public events and tourist areas.



No matter how careful you are, it is nearly impossible to avoid being a target. The best you can do is to mitigate your risk by not putting wallets in back pockets, carrying only a small cross-body backpack and holding cash in different pockets. You should carry only one credit card, small amounts of cash and one ID. You should make photocopies of these documents and keep them in your hotel room or with someone at home.

Always stay alert; pickpockets create distraction as well as prey on those that are easy targets, like having an open purse or bag. If you are robbed, call and cancel your credit cards as soon as possible. It's also worth checking for stolen items in nearby garbage cans, chairs and counter tops as some pickpockets only want cash or unlocked phones and will quickly discard all else. Your best defense is to remain vigilant and rely on your intuition to avoid pickpockets.

## LAUGH *studio*

**How do scientists freshen their breath?**

With expert-mints!

**What did the astronauts say about the new restaurant on the moon?**

Great food but no atmosphere!

**What candy do you eat on the playground?**

Recess Pieces!

**What do you call a sad strawberry?**

A blueberry!



**Where do sailboats go when they're sick?**

To the dock!

**KIDS:** If you have a joke you'd like to share, please send it to [info@monetta.com](mailto:info@monetta.com). If we use your joke, we'll send you a special prize!

## YOUNG *investors*

Answer the questions to figure out how long Phil from "Groundhog Day" was thought to be stuck in a time loop!



What topic isn't covered in this newsletter?	What job did Bill Murray have in Groundhog Day?	Pickpockets primarily use what tactic to rob you?	What city does Messi currently play for?	What sense was the frog missing in the newsletter story?
0 - Barcelona	0 - Soldier	0 - They dress well	0 - Spain	0 - Hearing
1 - Frogs	1 - Zombie	1 - Beg for money	1 - France	1 - Sight
2 - Groundhogs	2 - Scrooge	2 - Carry a newspaper	2 - Brazil	2 - Touch
3 - Trousers	3 - Newsman	3 - Distraction	3 - Los Angeles	3 - Smell
4 - Wallet	4 - Garfield	4 - Work in teams	4 - Argentina	4 - Paranormal
5 - Soccer	5 - Bowler	5 - Ask for directions	5 - Miami	5 - Taste

Email the answer to [info@monetta.com](mailto:info@monetta.com) or submit it online at [www.kidsnewsletters.com](http://www.kidsnewsletters.com) and be entered in a drawing to win a \$10 Target Gift Card! (Entries must be received by December 1, 2023).



YEARS




DAYS