

# Money As You Grow

## 3-5 YEARS

### YOU NEED MONEY TO BUY THINGS.

Identify coins and their value.

Discuss how you may value something that is free, such as playing with a friend. Identify items that cost money, such as ice cream, gas for the car, or clothes.

### YOU EARN MONEY BY WORKING.

Describe your job to your child.

Walk through your neighborhood or town and point out people working, like the bus driver or the police officer. Explain that some people start their own businesses, like clothing stores or restaurants, and those people are called entrepreneurs. Encourage your child to think about how they could earn money by setting up a lemonade or cookie stand.



What Your Kids Need to Know to Live Financially Smart Lives.



### THERE'S A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THINGS YOU WANT AND THINGS YOU NEED.

When you are out shopping, point out essentials such as food and clothing, and ask your child to describe items that they may want but are optional. Talk about how your family decides what to buy and what to pass up. Which is more important, buying cookies or fresh fruit? Soda or milk? Draw a circle and divide it into sections for food, rent or house payments, clothes, and "optional items," to show that there is a fixed amount of money to spend.

### YOU MAY HAVE TO WAIT BEFORE YOU CAN BUY SOMETHING YOU WANT.

When your child is standing in line for a turn on the swings, or looking forward to their favorite holiday, point out that sometimes we have to wait for things we want. Find three jars (or cans) and label one for saving, one for spending, and one for sharing. Suggest that your child put some of the money they get into the saving jar, so they can buy a toy or treat when they have saved enough.