

## Saving Money – Suggested Reading List

- The following books reinforce this lesson and are appropriate for children from pre-school to age 8 and all are available from a public library in Pennsylvania. If not available in your area, consider asking for an interlibrary loan.

**Axelrod, Amy.** *Pigs Will Be Pigs*, 1997

The hungry Pig family learns about money and buying power as they turn the house upside down looking for enough money to buy dinner at the local restaurant.

40 pages

**Bair, Shelia.** *Rock, Brock and the Savings Shock*, 2006\*

Rock and Brock are twins but one is a spender and one is a saver. Their grandfather hires them to do chores for the summer and encourages them to save by matching what they save.

32 pages

**Bradbury, Judy.** *A High-Fiving Gift for Mom*, 1997

At the annual teachers' fair, Christopher faces temptations such as ice cream and face painting while trying to stretch his money far enough to buy a Mother's Day gift.

48 pages

**Brown, Marc.** *Arthur Breaks the Bank*, 2004

Arthur is not very good at saving money, so when he begins mowing lawns and walking dogs for extra money, D.W. wants to know why. "It's a secret," he says, and every day he stuffs more money into his piggy bank. Eavesdropping on Arthur, she learns that he is going to break his bank. Determined to keep him from foolishly spending his hard-earned savings, D.W. hides the bank—until she learns that he has been saving up for her birthday present!

24 pages

**Burkett, Larry.** *A Home for the Hamster*, 2000

Sarah and Joshua want a hamster for a pet and find various ways to earn and save the money they need to buy a hamster.

32 pages

**Firestone, Mary.** *Saving Money*, 2004

Dora shows how to keep a careful account of money earned, things bought, money shared, and the remaining savings. Her three jars labeled "Spend," "Save," and "Share" show how the weekly allotments add up. Her personal goal is to buy a scooter.

24 pages

\* Books with multiple racial characters, African-Americans, Hispanics, or Asian-Americans.

**Glass, Julie.** *A Dollar for Penny*, 2000

A young girl named Penny sets up a lemonade stand and sells enough cups of refreshment to add up to a dollar. Told in rhyme, this delightful story combines the teaching of addition with childhood entrepreneurship!

32 pages

**Kushner, Tony.** *Brundibar*, 2003\*

When Aninku and Pepicek discover one morning that their mother is sick, they rush to town for milk to make her better. Their attempt to earn money by singing is thwarted by a bullying, bellowing hurdy-gurdy grinder, Brundibar, who tyrannizes the town square and chases all other street musicians away. Befriended by three intelligent talking animals and three hundred helpful schoolkids, brother and sister sing for the money, buy the milk, defeat the bully, and triumphantly return home. *Brundibar* is based on a Czech opera for children that was performed fifty-five times by the children of Terezin, the Nazi concentration camp.

56 pages

**Lewis, Thomas.** *My Piggy Bank*, 2003

With her savings, a little girl buys another piggy bank so that her first Piggy will have a pal and she can save even more.

24 pages

**Lindsey, Kathleen D.** *Sweet Potato Pie*, 2003\*

In the summer drought, the only thing that survives on seven-year-old Sadie's farm is the sweet potato crop. When the bank threatens to foreclose, Mama remembers the upcoming Harvest Celebration – an ideal place to sell her sweet potato pies

32 pages

**Loewen, Nancy.** *Save, Spend, or Donate?*, 2005\*

A back-to-school shopping trip offers opportunities for a father and his son and daughter to discuss methods of payment and corresponding banking terms, like PIN and ATM. Loewen includes savvy consumer advice through piggy-bank sidebars on most of the spreads. While Karly is setting up a small business in Lemons, she consequently learns the laws of supply and demand.

24 pages

\* Books with multiple racial characters, African-Americans, Hispanics, or Asian-Americans.

**Mayer, Mercer.** *Just a Piggy Bank*, 2001

Little Critter learns the importance of saving money in this charming addition to Mercer Mayer's best-selling line of picture books.

32 pages

**Mills, Lauren A.** *The Rag Coat*, 1991

A patchwork coat becomes the center of attention in a small Appalachian schoolhouse when Minna, eight, silences the teasing of her classmates by sharing the stories behind each of the cloth pieces. A tender story of friendship and love with gentle watercolors that evoke the time, place and people.

32 pages

**Mitchell, Margaret.** *Uncle Jed's Barbershop*, 1998\*

At age 79, Uncle Jed, after a lifetime of obstacles (including segregation and the Great Depression) and saving, finally realizes his dream of owning a barbershop.

40 pages

**Murphy, Stuart J.** *Sluggers' Car Wash*, 2002\*

The 21st Street Sluggers' T-shirts are worn-out and dirty. They need new ones, but they have no money. How can they raise some cash, and fast? By having a car wash! Learning to count money and making change are important real-life math skills – but teamwork is the most valuable player in this sports story.

40 pages

**Murphy, Stuart J.** *The Penny Pot*, 1998

The face painting booth at the school fair provides plenty of opportunities to count combinations of coins adding up to fifty.

32 pages

**Newton-John, Olivia and Hursts, Brian S.** *A Pig Tale*, 1993

Ziggy's father, a pig, collects everything from cans to old clothes and stores his collections in his house. Ziggy's classmates tease him until Ziggy makes a balloon from some of the junk, which his father used to fly around the world.

32 pages

\* Books with multiple racial characters, African-Americans, Hispanics, or Asian-Americans.

**Olaleye, Isaac.** *Bikes for Rent*, 2001\*

Lateef, a poor young boy living in a village in western Nigeria, works hard so he can rent a bicycle and ride with the other boys.

32 pages

**O'Neill, Alexis.** *Estela's Swap*, 2002\*

A young Mexican American girl accompanies her father to a swap meet, where she hopes to sell her music box for money for dancing lessons.

32 pages

**Rodriguez, Anita.** *Jamal and the Angel*, 1992\*

Jamal, a little boy from the inner city, saves his money for a guitar and eventually gets it with the help of an angel.

32 pages

**Sadler, Marilyn.** *Money, Money, Honey Bunny!*, 2006

*Honey Bunny Funnybunny* has lots and lots and lots of money. Some she saves, some she spends on herself, and some she spends on her friends. In this delightful rhyming book about spending and saving, the bear gets a chair, the fly gets some pie and, of course, the fox gets some socks.

36 pages

**Schwartz, David M.** *If You Made a Million*, 1994\*

Describes the various forms that money can take, including coins, paper money, and personal checks, and how it can be used to make purchases, pay off loans, or build interest in the bank.

40 pages

**Tololwa, Mollé.** *My Rows and Piles of Coins*, 1999\*

A Tanzanian boy saves his coins to buy a bicycle so that he can help his parents carry goods to market, but then he discovers that in spite of all he has saved, he still does not have enough money.

32 pages

**Viorst, Judith.** *Alexander Who Used To Be Rich Last Sunday*, 1987

Alexander receives a gift of \$1.00 and must decide how to use it. Before he realizes it, the money has disappeared on several small purchases.

32 pages

\* Books with multiple racial characters, African-Americans, Hispanics, or Asian-Americans.

**Wells, Rosemary.** *Bunny Money*, 2000

Max and Ruby take the bus downtown to buy a birthday gift for their grandma, but they spend so much money on emergencies that they don't have enough for bus fare home.

32 pages

**Whelan, Gloria.** *Jam & Jelly by Holly & Nellie*, 2002

Nellie and her mother pick berries all summer in order to make enough money so that Nellie can get a coat to wear to school in the winter.

48 pages

**Williams, Vera B.** *A Chair for My Mother*, 1984\*

After a fire destroys their home and possessions, Rosa, her mother, and grandmother save and save until they can afford to buy one big, comfortable chair that all three of them can enjoy.

32 pages

**Williams, Vera B.** *Something Special for Me*, 1986\*

Rosa has difficulty choosing a special birthday present to buy with the coins her mother and grandmother have saved until she hears a man playing beautiful music on an accordion.

32 pages

\* Books with multiple racial characters, African-Americans, Hispanics, or Asian-Americans.