



## Building Strong Families

Life resources for health, wellness, finances, and positive relationships.

### A Practical Money Guide for Students

One of the best things about having your own money is that you get to choose how to use it. Whether you have a job, you get a weekly allowance or get paid for walking your neighbors dog; the first step in handling your money well is to think about short-term and long-term goals, then make a plan to reach them.



**Earn**—Earning is the first step in your journey to managing your money wisely so that you can build a successful future. It's important to take the time to recognize your strengths and develop your skills so you can excel at what you do. Invest in your education and interests.

**Save** —The easiest way to save is to pay yourself first. That means setting aside a certain amount you earn and keeping it in a savings account. The key to saving successfully is by making it a regular habit.



**Budget** —To make good decisions about how to spend your money, start by setting money goals and work toward achieving them with a plan in mind. A personal budget is a plan that helps you put the money earned toward savings, expenses (lunch or entertainment money) or paying off debt (money you may have borrowed).

**Spend** —The key to spending is to stay within your means. Don't spend more money than you have. Before you make a purchase, look at lots of different options to make sure you're getting the best deal.



**Protect** —The easiest way to protect your hard earned cash is to keep it in a safe place. A bank is one of the most secure places for your money because it's the banks job to keep it safe. Don't leave your money where it can be stolen or lost.

When you're creating a budget, it is important to understand the difference between something you need to have and something you want to have. Remember to take care of your needs first so that you can think about saving for what you want. A budget can not only help you consider your immediate needs and wants but prepare you to achieve your long-term financial goals. The goal of a budget is to have money left to save.

**NEEDS**



**WANTS**



*Counting Quarters, Dimes,  
Nickels and Pennies*

Match the money with the amount shown

	41¢
	45¢
	21¢
	31¢
	27¢
	61¢
	17¢



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