



# How to...



## DID YOU KNOW?

The eagle was the first animal to appear on a US circulating coin, followed by the bison.

# Get smart about saving

Learn the basics of budgeting to make your money go even further.

**K**nowing how to manage money is an important life skill. Maybe you have birthday gift cards, an allowance, or money you made this summer from walking dogs, washing the family car, or babysitting. Creating a budget will help you save up for things you want now and be smarter about finances in the future. Here's how you can explore what it means to budget, save, and spend your money wisely.

### Open a bank account

If you don't have a savings account, you could talk to a parent about opening one at a bank. The bank is the safest place to keep your money, and you will earn interest on it. This means that the bank will pay you a small amount for keeping an account with them, and your money will grow over time.



**Do small jobs to earn cash.**

### Track your spending

A budget is a plan for how to use your money. When you create a budget, you know how much money you have and how it's spent. Write down everything you spend money on for the next two weeks. Then set aside time to evaluate what you bought. Was everything you purchased worth it?

### Think in threes

One way to plan a budget is to put your gift money, allowance, and other earnings into three categories: spend, save, and give. (Many adults also think along these lines when they create their household budget!) This will ensure that you have money to spend on small things (like ice cream with friends), save for something bigger (such as art supplies), and donate to

charity (like an animal shelter or food bank). To help with this, you can label three jars with "spend," "save," and "give" and divide your money among them. Or keep a running list of how much you have designated for each category. You can choose to split your money into three equal parts or divide it in a different way among the three options.

### Set a savings goal

To avoid spending your money too quickly, set a goal. Think about the things you really want. It can be something physical like a bike, an activity like ballet lessons, or an experience like a trip to an amusement park. Figure out how much you'll need for that goal, and slowly work toward it. You'll feel a sense of accomplishment when you reach your goal.

## Organize a yard sale



**A great way to make money is to have a yard sale. With an adult's help, follow these steps.**

**Select a date** Consider factors like weather when picking a day and time for your sale. With an adult's assistance, make colorful fliers with the details.

**Gather items** Start "shopping" your closet, drawers, toy box, and garage for items to sell, then set prices. Be sure to have small bills on hand to make change.

**Host your sale** Greet customers who stop by, and be sure an adult is there to supervise at all times. To sell more items, try "bundling" them—such as five books for \$3. Happy selling!