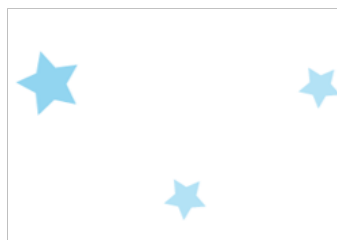
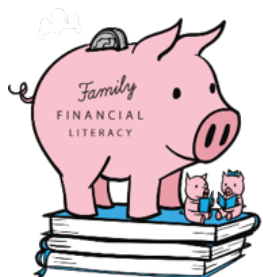


Family Financial Literacy Activities

Learning about Financial Literacy can be a family affair! Here are some ideas for ways to learn about money, family finances, and entrepreneurship together.

- 1. Wants vs. Needs** – Have a family conversation about *wants* and *needs*. What things – goods or services – does your family need? Those things must be paid for first when establishing the family budget. What things – goods or services – do members of the family want? How, as a family, do you decide which of the items on the wants list fit in the budget? Use examples from your book to illustrate the difference between *wants* and *needs*.
- 2. Family Savings Goal** – Choose something on your family *wants* to work together to save for. Maybe dinner at your favorite pizza place or a new game that everyone can enjoy. Decide together as a family which *want* item you are saving toward and make a plan for how much each person is going to contribute toward that goal. The pizza will taste better or the game will be more fun when everyone works together to achieve the savings goal. Look for times in your book that the characters save for a future goal.
- 3. Shop Local** – Does your book feature a business local to that community? Talk about why is it important to shop locally – to create a sense of community; to keep money in the local economy; to create jobs; to help the environment; to preserve choices for the local population; and to keep tax dollars in your community. Explore local businesses in your town. Eat at local restaurants. Buy from farmers at a local farmer’s market. Talk with owners of local businesses. Maybe your child will grow up to raise vegetables or sell books in your hometown!
- 4. A Good Cause** – Lots of books have issues in them that might spur your family to make a charitable donation to a worthy cause. Maybe the book deals with animal concerns or environmental issues. Or maybe it deals with issues of poverty and food access. Giving to a good cause is *philanthropy*. Find out what local or national organizations address the concern raised in the book. How do they raise money for their work? What do they do with the money? You can use websites like www.CharityNavigator.org to see which charities are able to do more with their money. Then, pretend you had \$100 to donate to charity. Where would you donate it? Would you give it all to one organization, or would you spread it across several? Would you donate to local organizations or national ones? If there is space in your family budget to make an actual donation, work together as a family to decide where to donate. There might be local organizations where you could donate your time instead of money by volunteering as a family.



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