



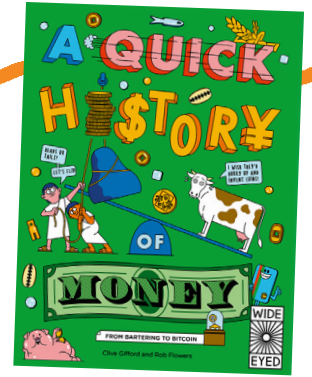
# Empowering Communities

## Family Guide

### Color Inspires Creativity



This guide helps families **PREPARE** for the Crayola Creativity Week daily theme *Empowering Communities*. You can print the two downloadable Thinking Sheets: *Money-Smart Words* and *Money Mishaps*, or you could use the Thinking Sheets as your guide while children work on plain paper. Either way, children can use a variety of art materials you have on hand.



Building financial literacy skills begins in childhood and establishes the foundation for a lifelong financially savvy mindset. Blending creative experiences with information about finances helps the entire family navigate through the many money decisions they will make today and in the future. Enjoy the video, book segments that are read aloud by Michael Rainey, Jr., and art activities that will help kids understand money matters and how to protect themselves from money mishaps.

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES—Children will:

- explore creative ways to build financial literacy skills including setting financial goals, planning a budget, finding ways to spend less, saving for the future, and avoiding money mishaps,
- identify the difference between wants and needs and learn why it is important to be money-smart and to find money-saving solutions through savvy shopper detective work,
- understand basic financial literacy vocabulary such as *income*, *wealth*, *expenditures*, *debt*, and *savings*, and
- develop an empowered mindset to help them make wise money decisions and navigate their financial future.



Using the *Money-Smart Words* Thinking Sheet, ask children to **RESPOND** to the humorous illustrations that explain financial literacy words. During the daily feature video, the book *A Quick History of Money* is read aloud to inspire kids to explore money words that interest them and then create sketches that explain those ideas.



Money doesn't grow on trees or in ATMs.

—Bree S.



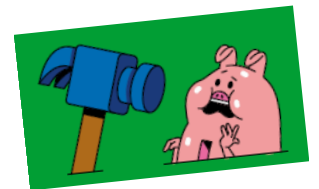
Discuss the money-smart words as children **CREATE** sketches that illustrate a situation, action, or financial literacy concept. This serious topic can be fun and relevant to kids of all ages when they focus on money matters that interest them.



After children have completed their illustrations, ask them where they'd like this art to be displayed. If their sketches **PRESENT** ideas for reducing food waste or comparing grocery prices, hanging the art on the refrigerator makes sense. If their art is focused on savings or planning for the future, what would be a good place to display those sketches?



Help kids **CONNECT** money-smart words with the many everyday situations where they and others make financial decisions. Weave money-smart words into conversations as your family is grocery shopping, selecting entertainment, repurposing items you already own, and discussing future careers. Remind kids that there can be many right answers in these conversations. Help them connect their ideas with other possibilities by saying, "Yes, and..." to help them think in flexible and open-minded ways.



Expenditures can break the bank.

**Quarto**

*A Quick History of Money*  
Published in 2021 by Wide Eyed Editions,  
an imprint of The Quarto Group.  
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The **Money Mishaps** Thinking Sheet can help children **CONNECT** money-smart behaviors with ways they can avoid money mishaps. Children of all ages enjoy doing some detective work to figure out “What if...?” while discussing imagined and real situations that could put their money at risk. In each scenario, emphasize the importance of having a financially savvy mindset.



Have children **RESPOND** to situations that could put money plans or savings at risk by selecting one for their **Money Mishaps** art. They might focus on the difference between *needs* and *wants*, how to repurpose an item they already own, or how they will become savvy shoppers by comparing prices and looking for discounts. As children sketch, share your own money stories including those that have worked out well and those that have been challenging.



Savvy shopper detective



Have family members **CREATE** sketches of themselves avoiding money mishaps by being a savvy shopper detective, identifying wants versus needs, and making good decisions.



Balancing wants with needs



As family members **PRESENT** and explain their art, discuss what they've learned about money-smart words and how to avoid money mishaps. Discuss what family members will do differently as they make money decisions and navigate the financial realities of everyday life.



After family members have completed the **Empowering Communities** activities, ask them to **REFLECT** on what they have learned, why financial literacy matters, and other money topics they are curious about.



**Note for teachers and parents:**

For more creative inspiration and hands-on explorations

go to [Crayola.com/CreativityWeek](https://Crayola.com/CreativityWeek)

To share student artwork on social media please post using

#CrayolaCreativityWeek



Learning

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