Ages 6 to 11

ayu FinLit

Financial Literacy for Kids



Ayaan Kapadia

ayu FinLit: Financial Literacy for Kids

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Published by Ayaan Kapadia.

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Please note. This book is for education. It is not financial, tax, or legal advice. Examples use US dollars. The ideas work with any money, so use your own coins and notes when you practice. Rules about banks, taxes, and loans differ from country to country, so check the rules where you live.

First edition, 2026

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Welcome!

This book is about **money**. Every family uses money every day. In this book you will learn what money is, where it comes from, and how to make smart choices with it.

You will do six things in every lesson:

- **Learn** with short stories.
- **Know your words** with word cards.
- **Sort it** by circling the right answer.
- **Practice** with real-life choices.
- **Quiz** yourself to see what you remember.
- **Make the call** and decide for yourself.

Take one lesson at a time. Ask a grown-up to read with you. It is fine to get an answer wrong. Read the answers page, and try again.

Use a pencil. Write, circle, and have fun!

How to use this book

For parents and teachers

This book has five levels, for ages 6 to 11. Each level has six or seven lessons and ends with a Level Challenge. The levels build on each other, so it works best in order.

- **Pace.** One lesson a week fits a school year. Each lesson takes about 20 to 30 minutes.
- **Reading.** In Levels 1 and 2, please read aloud together. From Level 3, most children can work alone.
- **Each lesson has seven pages:** two pages of learning, a page of word cards and sorting, a page of practice choices, a page of quiz questions, a recap page with a Make the Call, and an answers page.
- **Make the Call.** This box asks your child to choose and explain why. Often there is no single right answer. What matters is the reason. The answers page gives you questions to ask.
- **Try it at home.** Each recap page suggests a hands-on activity that needs only coins, paper, or things around the house.
- **Level Challenge.** At the end of each level, your child puts the lessons together. A checklist for you follows it.
- **Money and countries.** Examples use US dollars. Swap in your own money when you talk. Rules about banks, taxes, and loans differ by country.

Ages 6 to 7

Level 1

1. Needs vs. Wants
2. What Is Money?
3. Making a Spending Plan
4. Saving
5. Earning Money
6. Borrowing & Debt
7. Safe and Risky Choices
★ Level Challenge: My $10 Day

Level 1: for parents and teachers

Ages 6 to 7 · Grade 1

Use your own coins and notes when you practice. The numbers work the same with any money. Read each page aloud together.

1. Needs vs. Wants

Your child will: tell what makes something a need; tell what makes something a want; sort things and make real choices.
Talk about it: What is one need in your home?
Try it at home: Hunt around your home. Find 3 needs and 3 wants. Say how you know.

2. What Is Money?

Your child will: tell what money is; know coins, bills, and cards; sort things that are money and things that are not.
Talk about it: Have you ever traded a snack or a toy with a friend?
Try it at home: Play shop. Put price tags on four things. Take turns buying with real coins.

3. Making a Spending Plan

Your child will: tell what a spending plan is; split money into spend, save, and share; sort choices into spend now and save for later.
Talk about it: If you had $10, what would you do with it?
Try it at home: Use three jars labeled Spend, Save, and Share. Split a real $10 between them.

4. Saving

Your child will: tell what saving means; pick safe places for savings; count how long it takes to reach a goal.
Talk about it: What would you like to save for?
Try it at home: Color in a savings chart. Add a square each time you put money away.

5. Earning Money

Your child will: tell what it means to earn money; tell earned money from given money; sort examples into earned and given.
Talk about it: What chore could you do to earn money?
Try it at home: Make a chore chart. Put a star each time a job is done.

6. Borrowing & Debt

Your child will: tell what it means to borrow; tell what it means to owe; sort things that are borrowed and things you own.
Talk about it: What have you borrowed and given back?
Try it at home: Borrow a library book. Write the day it must go back. Then return it on time.

7. Safe and Risky Choices

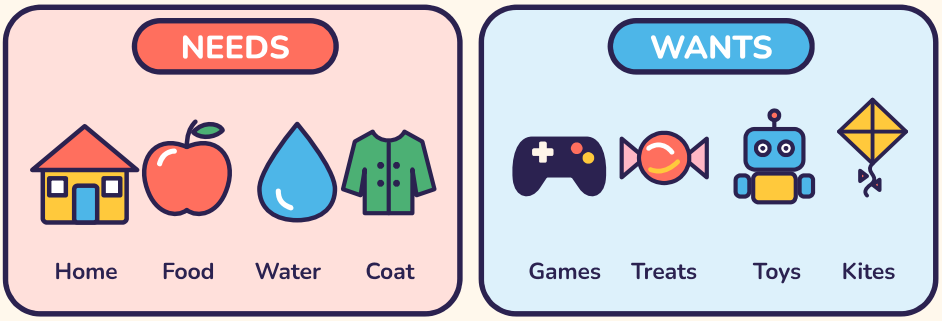
Your child will: tell what risk means; tell a safe choice from a risky one; sort choices into safe and risky.
Talk about it: Can you think of a choice where something could go wrong?
Try it at home: Walk around your home. Point out one safe thing and one risky thing.

Level 1 · Lesson 1

Needs vs. Wants

BY THE END YOU WILL BE ABLE TO:

1. Tell what makes something a **need**
2. Tell what makes something a **want**
3. Sort things and make real choices
4. Check what you learned with a short quiz



Part 1: What Is a Need?

You need some things every day. Food. Water. A home. Warm clothes.

A NEED is something you must have to stay healthy, safe, or ready to learn. You cannot skip it.

Food
Helps your body grow

Water
Your body needs it

Shelter
Keeps you safe

Right Clothing
Keeps you warm or cool

One cold day, you forget your coat. At school, you feel cold and shaky. A coat is not a treat. It is a need on a cold day.

QUICK THOUGHT

What is one need in your home?

🎮 Part 2: What Is a Want?

You see a new video game at the store. You really want it!

A WANT is something fun to have. You do not need it to be healthy.

Games & Toys	Treats	Shows & Movies	Extra Stuff
Fun, but not a must-have	Yummy, but extra	Fun to watch	More than you need

You already have games at home. You will not get sick without this new one. So it is a WANT, not a need. You can still get it another day.

🚲 ***It can depend!*** *A bike is usually a want. But if it is how you get to school, it can be a need.*

💛 **Wants are not bad! Everyone has wants. Just take care of needs first.**

🎯 Part 3: Needs First, Then Wants

Do you have a little money? Needs come first.

Say you get **$10**. Lunch costs **$6**. Lunch is a need. Pay for it first. If you spend all $10 on a want, like a toy, there is no money left for lunch!

$10 total → $6 for lunch (need) → $4 left over → now YOU decide

🎯 **Rule: pay for needs first. Then you can think about wants.**

QUICK THOUGHT

If you had $10, what need would you pay for first?



Words to Know

Read each word card. Say it out loud.



Need
Something you must have to stay healthy and safe.



Want
Fun to have. Not a must-have.



Shelter
A safe home. This is a need.



Treat
A fun snack. Usually a want.



Clothing
Keeps you warm or safe. A need.



Toy
Fun to play with. A want.



Priority
The thing you take care of first.



Choose
Pick one thing over another.

Sort It: Need or Want?

Look at each thing. Circle the right word.



Water bottle — NEEDS / WANTS



Yo-yo — NEEDS / WANTS



Mittens — NEEDS / WANTS



Bouncy ball — NEEDS / WANTS



Apple slice — NEEDS / WANTS



Stuffed animal — NEEDS / WANTS

❓ Practice

Read each story. Circle the letter of the best choice.



🚌 Scenario 1: The School Trip

You have **$20** for a school trip. Lunch costs **$8**. That is a need. A sticker pack costs **$15**. That is a want. What should you do?

- (A) 🎮 **Buy the stickers first. Skip lunch.**
- (B) 🥪 **Pay for lunch first. Then see what is left for stickers.**
- (C) 🤷 **Buy both without checking the price.**



👟 Scenario 2: The Rainy Shoes

You have **$5**. Your shoes have a hole. Rain gets in. That is a need to fix. A friend sells a bracelet for **$5**. That is a want. What is the smart choice?

- (A) 👟 **Fix your shoes. Keep your feet dry.**
- (B) 🙈 **Do nothing. Hope it is fine.**
- (C) 💫 **Buy the bracelet. It looks cool.**



🍽️ Scenario 3: Dinner Time

You are hungry. It is dinner time. Should your family make dinner? Or skip dinner for a fancy dessert?

- (A) 😴 **Skip both. Go to bed.**
- (B) 🍲 **Make dinner. Everyone needs food.**
- (C) 🍰 **Skip dinner. Just eat dessert.**

Quiz

Circle the letter of the right answer.

1 **Which one is a NEED?**

- (A) A kite
- (B) Bread
- (C) Trading cards
- (D) A candy bar

2 **Which one is a WANT?**

- (A) Rain boots
- (B) A warm blanket
- (C) A kite
- (D) A bed to sleep in

3 **True or False: A candy bar is something you NEED to stay healthy.**

- (A) True
- (B) False

4 **Pick the NEED.**

- (A) Trading cards
- (B) A kite
- (C) Rain boots on a rainy day
- (D) A candy bar

5 **If you have a little money, what should you pay for first?**

- (A) The most fun thing
- (B) Your needs
- (C) Everything at once
- (D) Nothing, just hide the money

Let's Recap

Tick each box when you can say it in your own words.

- [ ] A **NEED** is something you must have to stay healthy and safe: food, water, a home, warm clothes.
- [ ] A **WANT** is something fun to have. You do not need it.
- [ ] Wants are not bad. Just take care of needs first.
- [ ] Got money? Pay for needs first. Then think about wants.
- [ ] It can depend. A bike can be a want, or a need if it gets you to school.

Need	Want	Priority
Must have	Nice to have	Do first

🎯 Make the Call

You have **$10**. Lunch costs **$6**. A toy costs **$5**. You cannot buy both. What do you pay for first? Why?

I choose _____

Because _____

_____

_____

Try it at home: Hunt around your home. Find 3 needs and 3 wants. Say how you know.

◯ I Finished Lesson 1!

Next up: Lesson 2, What Is Money?

Check Your Answers

Needs vs. Wants. Look at these after you finish the lesson.

Sort It

💧 Water bottle	NEEDS	🪀 Yo-yo	WANTS
🧤 Mittens	NEEDS	🏀 Bouncy ball	WANTS
🍎 Apple slice	NEEDS	🧸 Stuffed animal	WANTS

Practice

1. **Answer B.** Great! You paid for your need first. You still have $12 left.
2. **Answer A.** Yes! Wet feet can make you sick. Fix the need first.
3. **Answer B.** Right! Dinner is a need. Dessert can come after.

Quiz

1. **Answer B.** You need food like bread to stay healthy!
2. **Answer C.** A kite is fun, but you don't need it to live.
3. **Answer B.** False. A candy bar is a want, not a need.
4. **Answer C.** Rain boots keep your feet dry. That's a need.
5. **Answer B.** Pay for needs first. Then think about wants if money is left.

Make the Call: talk about it

There is no single right answer. Listen for the reason. Most children pick lunch. Ask: "What would happen if you bought the toy first?" ($10 minus $5 leaves $5, which is not enough for lunch.) Then ask: "How could you get the toy too?" (Wait and save.)

Words to Know

Every word from the lessons, in A to Z order.

Add
Put money into your savings.

Add up
Put numbers together.

Bank
A safe place to keep money.

Bill
Paper money.

Borrow
Use something that is not yours. Give it back later.

Card
Uses money kept at a bank.

Careful
Paying close attention.

Choose
Pick one thing over another.

Chore
A small job you can do.

Clothing
Keeps you warm or safe. A need.

Coin
Small round money.

Debt
What you owe someone.

Earn
Get money for doing work.

Gift
Something given to you.

Goal
What you are saving for.

Grow
Your savings get bigger.

Income
Money you get, often for work.

Job
Work that someone does to get paid.

Lend
Let someone use your thing for a while.

Money
What we use to buy things.

Need
Something you must have to stay healthy and safe.

Owe
You must pay it back.

Words to Know, continued

Own
Yours to keep.

Paid
Got money for your work.

Patience
Waiting for something you want.

Pay back
Give back what you borrowed.

Piggy bank
A safe place at home for money.

Plan
Decide before you do it.

Priority
The thing you take care of first.

Protect
Keep something safe.

Risk
A chance something goes wrong.

Risky choice
Something could go wrong.

Safe choice
Likely to be okay.

Save
Keep money for later.

Share
Give some to someone.

Shelter
A safe home. This is a need.

Spend
Use money to buy something.

Spending plan
A plan for your money.

Think ahead
Ask what could happen first.

Toy
Fun to play with. A want.

Trade
Give something to get something.

Treat
A fun snack. Usually a want.

Want
Fun to have. Not a must-have.

Words from Levels 2 to 5 are added here in the full book.

Keep going!

Money is something you will use for your whole life. You have taken the first steps. Keep asking questions. Keep making good choices. Talk to a grown-up about money at home.



Did you enjoy this book?

A short review helps other families find it. Thank you for learning with us!

