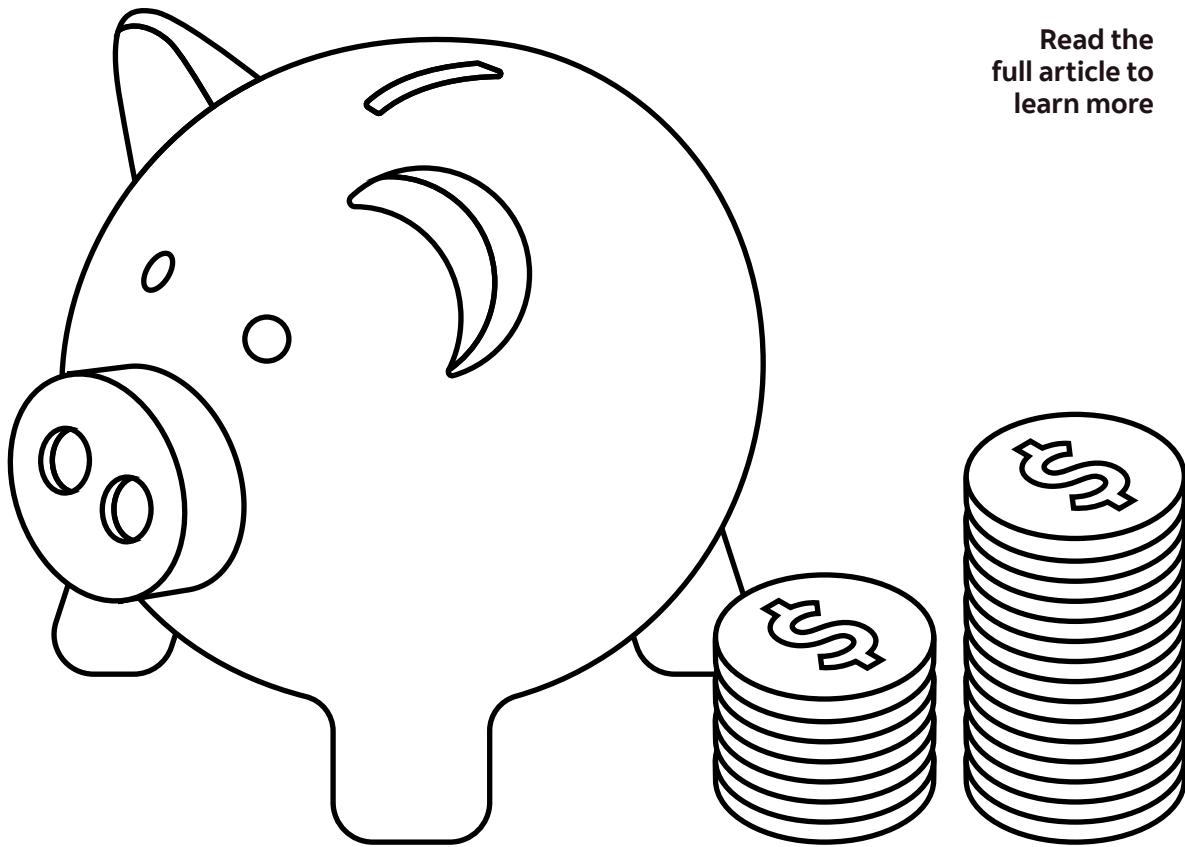




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A guide to raising financially confident kids (ages 3–13+)

From piggy banks to credit scores — discover age-appropriate ways to teach kids the value of money and build lifelong financial habits.

Starter tips:



Money habits start early:

Kids begin forming financial behaviors by age seven.



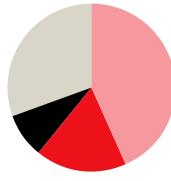
Kids learn by example:

Involving them in daily money choices builds confidence.



Hands-on learning works best:

Games and real-life activities make lessons stick.



Tailor lessons by age:

From saving basics to budgeting and credit as they grow.

Use this table to spark quick, everyday money chats with your child. Each tip comes with a simple activity—perfect for fridge-friendly learning and fun!

Read the full article to learn more



Money concepts for ages 3–5

| Money concept | How to explain it | Try this activity |
|--|---|---|
|  Earning | “Money is what we use to buy things. You earn money by working.” ³ | Talk about your job or point out workers like bus drivers and store clerks. |
|  Planning | “You need to think ahead before spending money.” ⁴ | Play games like Simon Says or I Spy to build attention and planning skills. |
|  Saving | “Some things are worth waiting for.” ⁵ | Set up a savings jar or piggy bank to help your child save for a toy or treat. |
|  Spending | “Spending money always means making a choice.” ⁶ | Give them a small amount of money, like \$2, and let them choose how to spend it. |



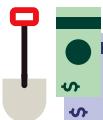
Money concepts for ages 6–12

| Money concept | How to explain it | Try this activity |
|--|--|--|
|  Earning | “You can earn money by doing jobs or helping others.” ¹⁰ | Let them take on chores or tasks to earn pocket money. |
|  Planning | “Before you spend money, have a plan in mind.” | Make a combo budget and shopping list before going to a store. Work together to stick to it! |
|  Saving | “Put money aside now for things you want to buy later.” | Encourage your child to save 10 cents of every dollar. |
|  Spending | “You can’t buy everything at once. You must make choices.” “Compare before you buy.” | Introduce an allowance as a teaching tool for how to save and spend money. ¹¹ Look for deals online or in-store as a team. ¹² |
|  Borrowing | “When you borrow, you pay back more.” | Try a loan game — lend them \$5 and create a simple payback plan from their allowance. |





Money concepts for ages 13+

| Money concept | How to explain it | Try this activity |
|---|--|---|
|  Earning | “You earn money by trading your time for value.” | Encourage part-time jobs or extra paid chores to help them connect effort and income. |
|  Planning | “A goal without a plan is just a wish.” | Play games like Simon Says or I Spy to build attention and planning skills. |
|  Saving | “Saving means paying your future self first.” | Show how budgeting tools and savings apps can help set goals and reach them faster. |
|  Spending | “Spending money wisely can feel just as good as saving it.” | <p>You could introduce them to the 50/30/20 budgeting rule</p> <p>50% of your income goes toward necessities things like food and transportation</p> <p>30% for fun, wants and needs</p> <p>20% toward your savings</p> <p>When it's gone, spending stops — a simple way to learn balance.</p> |
|  Shopping | “It can be easy to overspend if emotions take over.” | Talk about how stress, boredom or peer pressure can lead to impulse buys. Suggest a 24-hour pause before hitting “buy” — a smart habit to curb emotional spending. |
|  Borrowing | “Not all debt is bad — it's how you use it that matters.” | Teach the difference between responsible borrowing (like student loans) and problematic debt. Explain how paying bills on time builds your <u>credit history</u> and can open doors later. |
|  Protecting against scams | “Not everyone giving advice is worth listening to.” | Have them research a viral product. Compare prices, check legit reviews and discuss whether the product lives up to the hype. |
|  Paying taxes and giving back | “Part of your paycheque goes to things we all share — like schools and roads.” ¹⁸ | Look at a pay stub together to learn the difference between gross and net income. |

