MADE WITH LITTLE STORYBOOK

How Could a Giant Stone Be Money?

Visual lesson



Could a stone be money?

Kai tries to lift Grandma Rosa's round stone doorstop. It won't budge. "Could a stone ever be money?" he puffs. Grandma Rosa reaches into her green bag for her little box. "A giant one could. Let's go and see."





The island of stone money

Pop! The box opens onto Yap, a green island in the Pacific Ocean. Along the village paths stand huge round stones with holes in the middle. Some are taller than Grandma Rosa! For hundreds of years, these stones were money.

Across the sea

Long ago, the people of Yap carved these stones on another island, far across the sea. Then they carried them home on rafts pulled by canoes. It was hard, slow work, and that is one reason the stones were so special.





Too big for a pocket

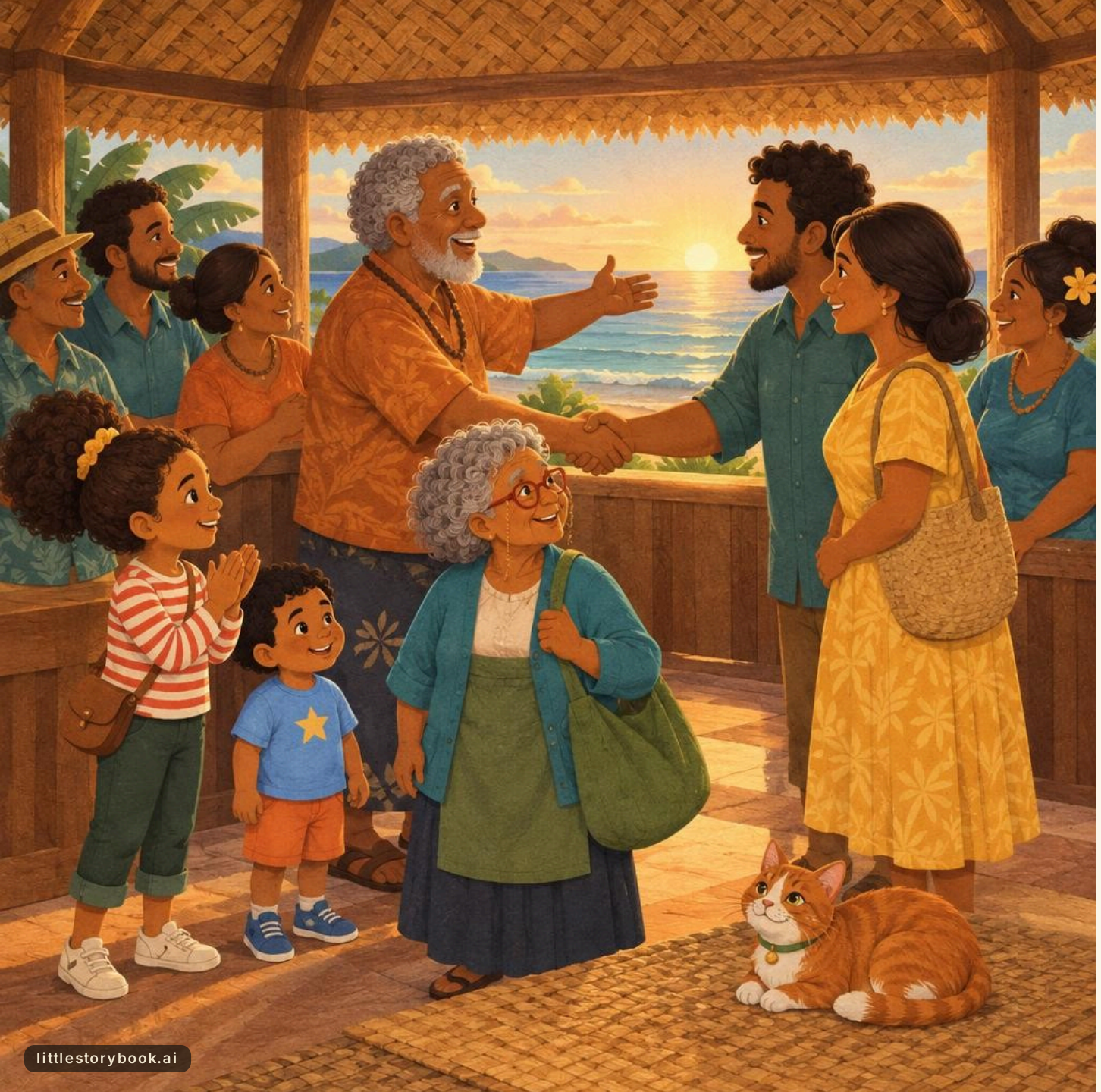
Kai tries to put a giant stone in his pocket. It doesn't work! The stones were far too heavy to move. So when a stone was given to a new family, it stayed right where it was, and the whole village remembered who owned it now.

The stone in the sea

Here is a true story. Once, a big stone slipped off its raft on the way home and sank to the bottom of the sea. Nobody could ever see it again. But all the villagers knew it was down there.

> **TALK ABOUT IT**
> Was the stone in the sea still money?





Still money!

It was still money! The family that owned it could still pay with it, because everyone agreed it was there. A visitor wrote this story down more than a hundred years ago. Money works when people agree and remember.

Keeping track

Pop! Back home, Nia needs a green crayon for her drawing, so she borrows Kai's. Kai frowns. Will he get it back?

> **TALK ABOUT IT**
> Nia borrowed Kai's green crayon. What keeps it fair?





A stone for the box

A tiny stone wheel goes into the next hollow. "Remember this stone," says Grandma Rosa. "One day we'll meet a new kind of money that works a bit like it."

Check your wonder

1 **Why didn't people on Yap move their giant stones?**

A. They were far too heavy

B. Nobody wanted them

2 **How did people know who owned each stone?**

A. The whole village remembered

B. Names were painted on them

C. The stones were locked up

3 **The stone at the bottom of the sea: was it still money?**

A. Yes, everyone agreed it was there

B. No, nobody could see it

ANSWERS 1-A 2-A 3-A

1. Yes! So the stones stayed put, and the village remembered. 2. That's right. Everyone remembered and agreed. 3. Yes! Money works when people agree.

THE END

Visual lesson



Put your child in this story

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