MADE WITH LITTLE STORYBOOK

What Did People Use Before Money?

Visual lesson



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Can I swap?

Kai holds up his little yellow toy car. "Grandma Rosa, can I swap my car for an apple?" Grandma Rosa smiles and pats her big green bag. "Long, long ago, people swapped all the time. Shall we go and see?"





The pop-up market

Grandma Rosa lifts the lid of her little wooden box. Pop! Paper roofs, stalls and people spring up all around them. Now they are in a busy market from long, long ago. In this market, nobody has any money at all.

A happy swap

A weaver, who makes cloth, wants grain. A farmer has grain, and he wants cloth. So they swap! Both of them get just what they wanted.





Will the fisher swap?

The potter, who makes pots, wants a fish for her supper. So Kai carries her round clay pot all the way to the fisher. But look at the fisher. He keeps pointing at the weaver's blue cloth.

TALK ABOUT IT

Will the fisher swap his fish for the pot?

Round and round

No swap! So off they go. The farmer takes the pot and gives grain. The weaver takes the grain and gives cloth. The fisher takes the cloth and gives a fish. Phew! Round and round the whole market, just for one fish.





One thing everyone takes

That is why, in many places, people agreed on one thing that everybody would take. Then the potter can pay the fisher straight away, and the fisher can use it to buy cloth later. That one thing became money.

Grandma Rosa's work

Pop! They are back in the shop. All day long, Grandma Rosa sells apples and oranges. That is her work, and her work is how she gets her money. Now Kai still wants his apple.

> **TALK ABOUT IT**
> What can Kai give Grandma Rosa for the apple?





The first keepsake

Kai pays with a shiny coin and keeps his toy car. Crunch! Then he opens Grandma Rosa's box and tucks in the tiny clay pot the potter gave him for helping. The next little hollow waits, empty.

Check your wonder

1 **Why didn't the fisher take the pot?**

- **A.** He wanted cloth, not a pot
- **B.** The pot was too heavy

2 **What did people agree to use, so that paying got easy?**

- **A.** One thing everybody takes: money
- **B.** Bigger pots

3 **How does Grandma Rosa get her money?**

- **A.** She works in her shop, selling fruit
- **B.** It comes out of her wooden box

ANSWERS 1-A 2-A 3-A

1. Right! A swap only works when both people want the thing. 2. Yes! Money is one thing that everybody takes. 3. That's it. Grown-ups earn money by working.

THE END

Visual lesson



Put your child in this story

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