

The Year that Jack saved

A story about earning money and making a budget

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It was Christmas morning and Jack and his older brother, Harry, were opening their gifts.

Harry got a shiny new bike, but Jack only got roller skates, which were good, but couldn't take him as far. Jack and Harry received \$50 each from their Grandma and \$25 from their Aunty.

Jack decided that he wanted a bike too, just like Harry's. So, he planned to save \$500 by next Christmas so he could buy his very own bike.



As soon as Jack had set his goal, he rushed upstairs to check his piggy bank.

Jack had 10 two-dollar coins, 23 one-dollar coins, and a couple of silver coins that added up to \$13. Altogether, Jack had \$56 from his piggy bank.

With the money he received from his relatives, and the money he found in his piggy bank, Jack now had \$131.

Piggybank
$$(10x $2) + (23x$1) + $13 = $56$$

Existing savings: New savings: Total Savings:







Although Jack was off to a good start, he needed more money. Jack wondered if he could do chores to earn pocket money.

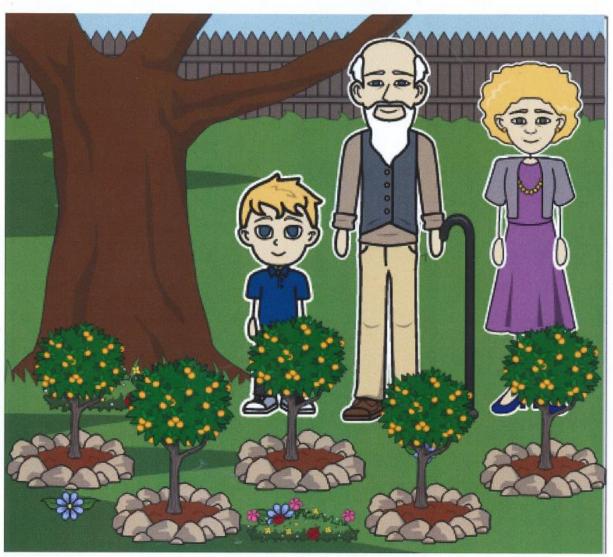
He negotiated with his parents to give him \$5 a week if he took his dishes to the kitchen after every meal, made his bed every morning, and fed his dog at breakfast time.

Luckily for Jack, his mum and dad agreed. Jack's dad said that he would be paid every Saturday.

Now that Jack could earn five dollars every week if he did his chores, he didn't need to worry.

Potential Pocket money \$5 x 52 weeks = \$260





January

It was school holidays for most of the month.

Jack became quite bored, so his mum suggested that he should help his grandparents with a few chores. They needed Jack to dig five holes so they could plant some trees.

Jack found that it was actually quite fun. He received \$20 from his grandparents and found that they were much more generous than his parents.

He also earned an extra \$10 from his parents by doing some additional chores at home.

His savings were going really well, however he was invited to his friend Cooper's birthday party.

He decided to spend around \$20 on a gift. He found a nerf gun that he knew Cooper would really like but it was \$40. He kept looking around the shops and found a similar nerf gun for \$25. Although it was a bit over budget, he still bought it.

Pocket money + extra chores - Cooper's gift

 $(5 \times $5) + $20 + $10 - $25 = 30

Existing savings: \$131
New savings + \$30
Total Savings: \$161





February

School had started again and Jack was very busy. He didn't have much time to earn extra money.

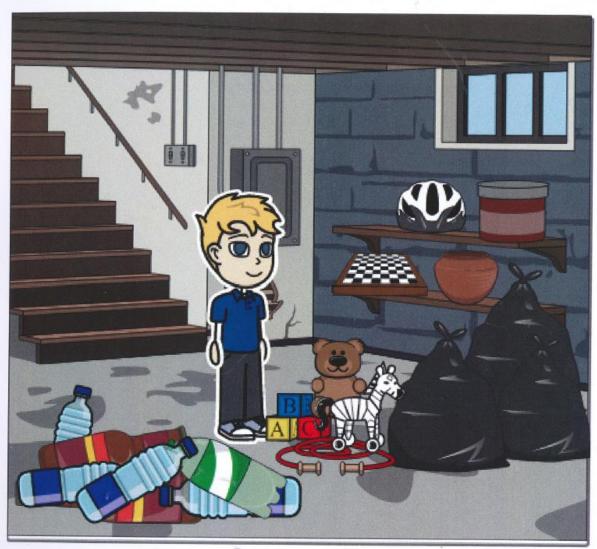
Recently, Jack had been having poppers in his lunch box. Jack's dad had been going to the recycling place to return empty bottles and Popper boxes for 10 cents each. Jack knew that whoever went with his dad got to keep the money. In February, he earnt \$12 just by recycling!

> Pocket money + recycling $(4 \times $5) + $12 = 32

Existing savings: \$161 New savings + \$32







March

Jack's dad was cleaning out the garage and offered to pay Jack \$10 if he helped. It took them about 3 hours; so Jack's dad gave him \$10 plus an extra \$5 since it took them so long and he had done such a good job. While cleaning out the garage, Jack found some old toys. They brought back many fun memories, but he didn't need them anymore. He was able to sell them to the neighbours for \$40. Jack was very happy.

Pocket money + chores + selling toys $(4 \times \$5) + (\$10 + \$5) + \$40 = \$75$

Existing savings: \$193 New savings + \$75 Total Savings: \$268



April

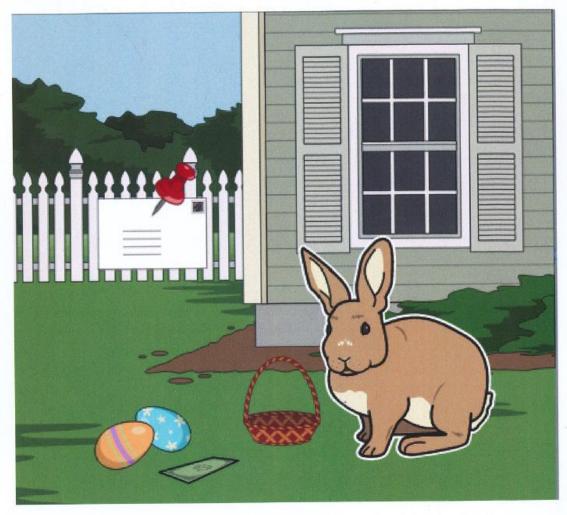
Easter had finally arrived. Jack decided he would write a letter to the Easter Bunny asking for money instead of chocolate eggs. Luckily, his letter worked and Jack received \$20 and two small chocolate eggs.

Since it was school holidays, he was able to do some extra chores. Jack helped with gardening for \$2, he cleaned his room for \$5, and he raked the leaves in the front yard for \$4. In total he got \$11 for doing some extra chores.

Pocket money + Easter + extra chores $(5 \times $5) + $20 + $11 = 56

Existing savings: \$268
New savings + \$56
Total Savings: \$324







May

Mothers' Day was coming up and to save money, Jack decided to paint his mum a picture and buy something else she would like that was cheap. Jack brought out his paints and busily created a masterpiece for his mum. Later that day, he went to the shops and bought some plastic stick on earrings for \$5.

When Mothers' Day finally arrived, Jack served her breakfast in bed and gave her the painting and earrings. His mum said the painting was the best gift ever. She didn't mention the earrings.

Pocket money - Mothers' Day gift (4x \$5) - \$5 = \$15

Existing savings:

\$324

New savings

\$15

\$339 **Total Savings:**

Goal:

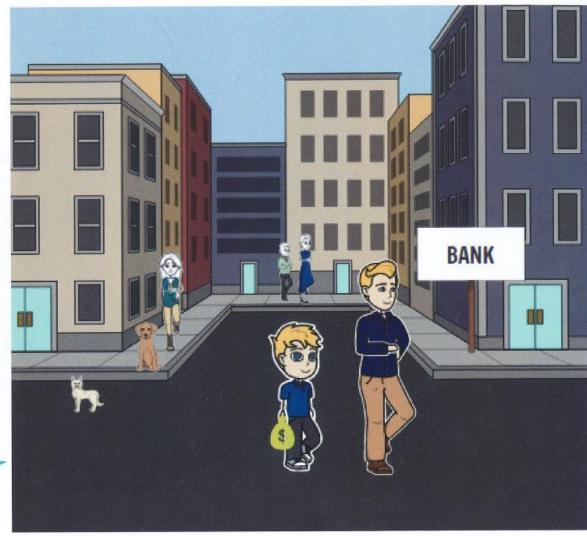
June

In June, Jack kept experiencing thoughts that burglars might break into his house. He was worried that if they did, they would steal his money and he would have to start saving all over again. Jack told his dad about his worries and his dad suggested that they could take his money to the bank. Although Jack didn't earn any extra money that month, he was happy to know that his savings would be safe in the bank.

Pocket money (4x \$5) = \$20

Existing savings: \$339 New savings + \$20







July

In the July school holidays, Jack's friend Nick, invited him to the movies.

Jack's mum gave him \$20 for a snack and a ticket. She said that he could keep the change and when Jack heard this, he automatically thought to take a snack. Jack found some left over lollies in a party bag from his friend Archie's birthday and took them instead. He also took a small can of soft drink. The movie ticket cost \$10. Jack was very happy since he went to the movies and was able to save \$10 just by taking his own snacks!

> Pocket money + movie savings (4x \$5) + \$10 = \$30

Existing savings:

\$359 New savings + \$30



August

In August Jack went to the recycling centre with his dad and made \$8 from returning the bottles he had collected.

He also did a couple extra chores. He earned an extra \$11 pocket money for cleaning the bathroom (\$3), making breakfast (\$2), gardening (\$3) and cleaning up his room (\$3).

Although nothing major happened in August, Jack was still quite happy with his results on his savings.

Pocket money + recycling + chores

(5x\$5) + \$8 + \$11 = \$44

Existing savings: \$389 New savings: + \$44

Total savings: \$433

Goal: \$500





September

Jack knew his savings were going well, and he was very excited to get his new bike soon!

September brought Fathers' Day. Jack bought socks at the 'Fathers' Day Sock Shop' at his school. The socks were only five dollars and Jack made his father a painting like he had done for Mothers' Day. Jack was very happy to give his dad a pair of socks and another amazing painting.

Pocket money - Fathers' Day gift (4x \$5) - \$5 = \$15

Existing savings: \$433 New savings + \$15 Total Savings: \$448



October

Jack was very excited because it was his birthday on the 31st of October!

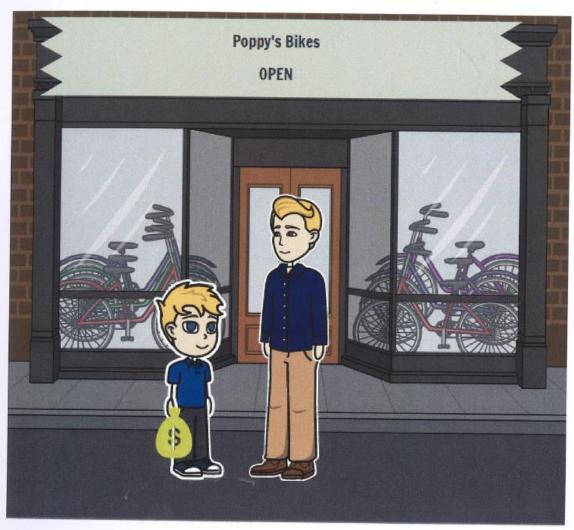
His parents asked Jack what he would like, and he said he would like a bike helmet and a bit of money for his savings. He also wanted a Lego set but he didn't ask for that. Jack's mum secretly knew that he really wanted a particular Lego set, so Jack received a bike helmet, \$20 and a brandnew Lego set from his parents. His grandparents and his Aunty also gave him \$50 in total. Jack was very thrilled, because he now had enough money to buy his new bike.

Pocket money + birthday money (5x \$5) + \$20 + 50 = \$95

Existing savings: \$448 New savings \$95







November

The very next day, Jack and his Dad went to the bike shop to buy a bike. Since most of Jack's money was in the bank, they stopped at the bank on the way.

Jack picked out a shiny green bike that he loved. It cost \$450 because it was on sale.

Jack had \$93 left over. He decided to keep saving for something else. He didn't know what it would be, but now that he was an expert at saving, he thought he'd try.

Pocket money (4x \$5) = \$20

Existing savings: New savings \$ 93 + <u>\$20</u>

Total Savings: \$113

Just saving

December

It was Christmas morning and Jack and his older brother, Harry, were opening their gifts.

Harry got a shiny new hoverboard.

Jack received a skateboard, which was good, but not as much fun as a hoverboard.

Luckily Jack was a great saver, plus he could ride his new bike in the meantime.

Pocket money (4x \$5) = \$20

Existing savings: \$113 New savings + \$20

Total Savings: \$133

New Goal: Hoverboard

