

Learn to save with Money Monsters

Your child will listen to a story about saving money and then act out the story using paper puppets.

Key money concepts

- It can be helpful for children to know exactly what they're saving for. This is called a savings goal.
- This activity can help your child develop a plan for saving and make it easier for them to reach their savings goal.

Setup

- Set aside 15–30 minutes for this activity.
- Gather scissors, and crayons, markers, or colored pencils. Print a single-sided copy of the puppets at the end of this guide.
- Download the *Money Monsters Learn to Save* book as a PDF at https://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/documents/cfpb_building_block_activities_money-monsters-learn-save_story.pdf or an animated ePub at https://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/documents/cfpb_building_block_money-monsters-learn-save_story.epub.



To view the ePub file, you'll need a book reader app.

- You also can order free copies of this story or the entire Money Monster storybook series from <https://go.usa.gov/xzxs>. Shipping usually takes three to four weeks.



Things to talk about

Before reading the story

- Share with your child some things you'd like to save money for.

After reading and acting out the story

Talk to your child about the story. Some questions you can ask are:

- "Gibbins and Foozil decide to earn money through odd jobs. What does it mean to have odd jobs?"
- "What are a few odd jobs you could imagine doing to earn money?"
- "Why did Foozil change her plan for saving money? How did she decide to change her plan?"
- "What are some things you might want to save money for?"

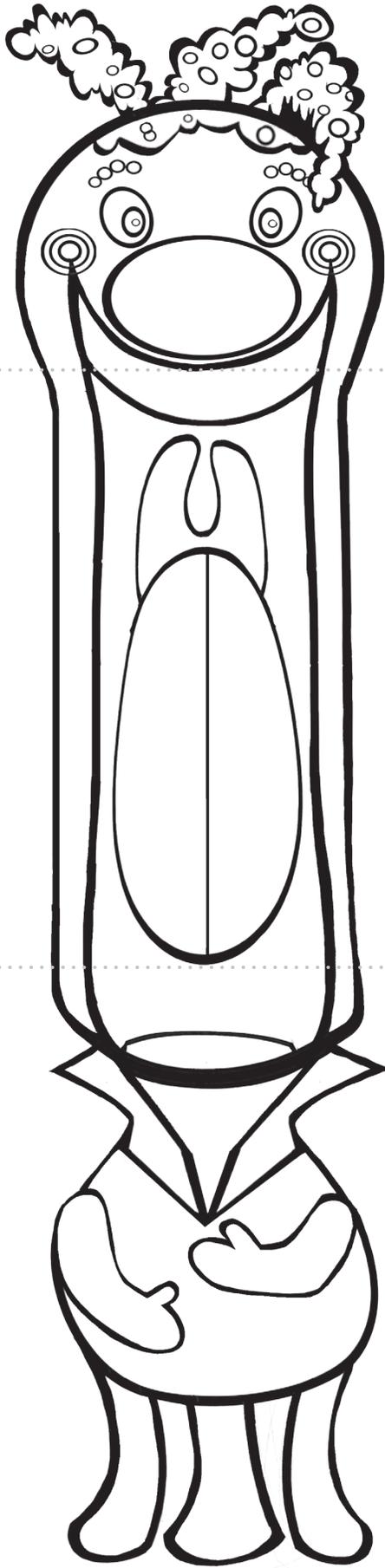
Directions

1. Read the *Money Monsters Learn to Save* book with your child.
2. After you finish the story, ask your child to color the puppets.
3. When your child is finished coloring, cut the puppets out and work with your child to fold them.
 - First, fold the puppet backward along the top dotted line and make a crease.
 - Then, fold the puppet backward along the bottom dotted line and make a crease.
 - Bring the creases together.
 - Hold the puppet from behind to open and close its mouth.
4. With your child, use the puppets to act out a story about saving for something. This will help your child understand and remember key concepts from the story.
5. After reading and acting out the story, encourage your child to talk with you about the story. See the “Things to talk about” section on the previous page for suggestions.

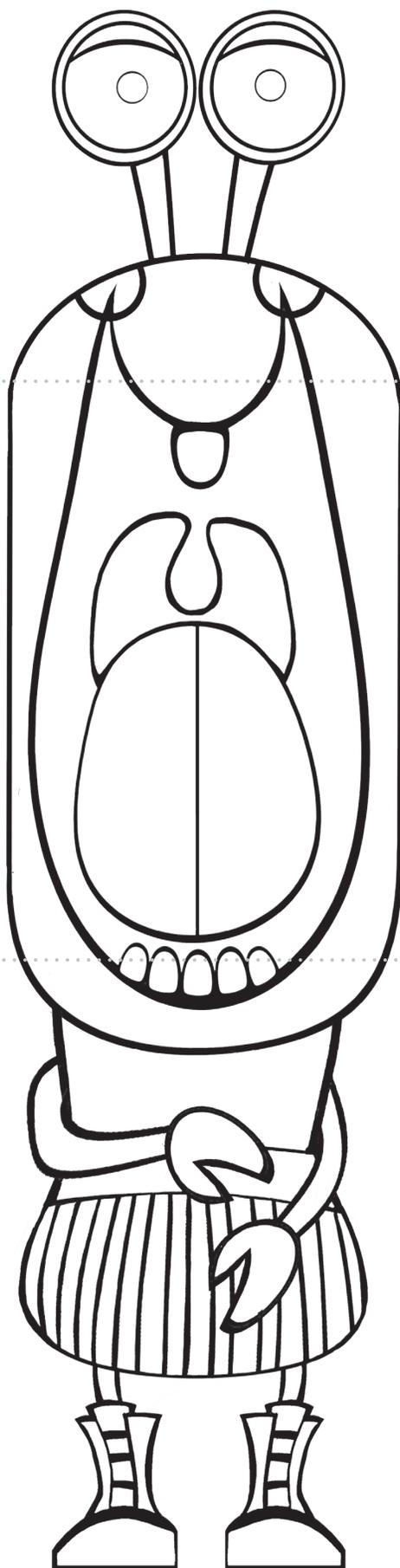
Learn more about building your child’s money skills

This activity helps develop your child’s planning and self-control skills. To build these skills, they should practice things like planning ahead, remembering information, and solving problems. It also develops money habits and values. To build these skills, they should practice having a positive attitude about saving and spending. Finally, this activity helps develop your child’s money knowledge and choices. To build these skills, they should learn facts about saving and spending money and use what they’ve learned to make the best money choices for them. [Learn more about building your child’s money skills.](#)

Foozil



Gibbins



Oodle

