

Practicing giving

Students listen to a story about giving and then practice giving to another student.

Learning goals

Big idea

When we give to others, it helps them and can make us feel good.

Essential questions

- Why is it important to give to others?
- How do you feel when you give something to someone?

Objectives

- Understand the importance of giving
- Explore how it feels to give something to someone

What students will do



- Listen to and reflect on a story about giving.
- Color a picture to give to another student.
- Explore how it feels to give something to someone.

NOTE

Please remember to consider your students' accommodations and special needs to ensure that all students are able to participate in a meaningful way.

KEY INFORMATION

Building block:

-  Financial habits and norms
-  Financial knowledge and decision-making skills

Grade level: Elementary school (K-1, 2-3)

Age range: 5-7, 7-9

Topic: Spend (Buying things, Giving to others)

School subject: English or language arts, Fine arts and performing arts, Social studies or history

Teaching strategy: Simulation

Bloom's Taxonomy level: Understand, Apply

Activity duration: 45-60 minutes

National Standards for Personal Financial Education, 2021

Earning income: 4-6

Spending: 4-1, 4-2, 4-4, 4-5, 8-1

Saving: 4-1, 4-2, 4-3

These standards are cumulative, and topics are not repeated in each grade level. This activity may include information students need to understand before exploring this topic in more detail.

Preparing for this activity

- While it's not necessary, completing the "[Exploring ways we use money](#)" activity for grades K-1 or "[Bouncing ball spending game](#)" activity for grades 2-3 first may make this one more meaningful.
- This activity can only be completed on paper. Print a copy of the shoes at the end of this guide for each student.
- Obtain a copy of the book *Those Shoes** by Maribeth Boelts and Noah Z. Jones.
- Write each student's name on a slip of paper and fold it.
- Obtain a hat or other container to put the slips in.
- Gather crayons, markers, or colored pencils for students to use.

What you'll need

THIS TEACHER GUIDE

- Practicing giving (guide)
[cfpb_building_block_activities_practicing-giving_guide.pdf](#)
- *Those Shoes* by Maribeth Boelts and Noah Z. Jones
- Slips of paper with each student's name
- Container

STUDENT MATERIALS

- Picture of shoes (in this guide)
- Crayons, markers, or colored pencils

Exploring key financial concepts

Many people try to help others. People often give money to help others. They might give money to a family member or friend who might need it. They also might give money to organizations that help with things that are important to them. For example, someone might give money to a hospital that takes care of people who can't pay. Or someone who loves animals might give money to an animal shelter. Giving something to help a person or organization is also called donating.

*Written by Maribeth Boelts, illustrated by Noah Z. Jones, and published in 2016 by Candlewick Press.

TIP

Because practices related to giving change, students should be encouraged to always look for the most up-to-date information.

Money isn't the only thing we can give to help others. We also can donate things that people might need. For example, we can give food to organizations that help people who don't have enough to eat. If we have things like clothes or books that we don't use anymore, we can give them to a friend or family member who might need them. We also can donate them to organizations that use them to help people.

We can give our time by helping with things that people need done. For example, if your school has a bake sale, you can give your time by helping to set up the table with the treats. Many people give their time by doing something they're good at. A person who can fix houses might do some work for a neighbor who can't pay them. A singer might perform at a special concert to help raise money for a hospital or library in your town.

Giving to others is an important part of growing up. When we donate our money, our things, or our time, it not only can help people get things they need, but it also can make us feel good.

Teaching this activity

Whole-class introduction

- You can read the "Exploring key financial concepts" section to students to introduce them to the idea of giving.
- Ask students how giving can be different from sharing.
 - When you share something with someone, it often means you get it back.
 - When you give something to someone, it often means you don't get it back.
 - Example: If you share a toy with a friend, you get the toy back later. If you give the toy to a friend, the friend keeps it.
- Be sure students understand key vocabulary:
 - **Donate:** To give something (like money, food, or clothes) to help a person or organization.

TIP

Visit CFPB's financial education glossary at consumerfinance.gov/financial-education-glossary/.

Individual and group work

- Show students the book *Those Shoes* and tell them they'll hear a story about someone who gives something away.
- Read the story to the class.

- Discuss how Jeremy gave “those shoes” to Antonio. You can ask students questions such as:
 - Did Jeremy want to give the shoes to Antonio at first?
 - Why did he do it?
 - How did it make him feel?
 - Do you think it was the right decision?
- Encourage students to share a time they gave something to someone and how it made them feel.
- Give each student the picture of the shoes at the end of this guide.
- Tell them that they’ll color the shoes.
- Explain that for fun, they’ll give the shoes to a classmate.
- Distribute crayons, markers, or colored pencils.
- Allow students time to color the shoes.
 - For grades 2-3, consider having the students write a kind message on the back of their pictures.
- Have each student pull a classmate’s name from the container.
 - Tell students not to say the name out loud.
 - Have each student show you the name and whisper it to you to make sure they got the name right.
 - For struggling readers or English language learners, you may need to whisper the name to them.
 - Tell students to hold on to the slip of paper in case they need to remember whom they picked. Remind them to not let anyone see the paper.
- Have the students stand in a circle with their pictures.
- Show them how they’ll give and receive the shoes:
 - The giver will say “I am giving my shoes to (other student’s name)” as they hand them to the recipient.
 - The recipient will say “Thank you” as they accept.
 - Encourage students to make eye contact and smile when speaking.
- Go around the circle and have each student give their picture to the person they picked.

Wrap-up

- After everyone has given away their pictures, have them return to their seats.
- Ask volunteers to share how it felt to give and how it felt to receive.
- Ask volunteers to share why they think it's important to give to others.

Suggested next steps

Consider searching for other [CFPB activities](#) that address the topic of spending, including buying things or giving to others. Suggested activities include "[Learning about giving with Money Monsters](#)" and "[Exploring needs and wants](#)."

You may also consider reading and discussing the book "A Chair for My Mother" by Vera Williams, published by Scholastic in 1982.

Measuring student learning

Students' answers during discussion can give you a sense of their understanding.

Keep in mind that students' answers may vary. The important thing is for students to have reasonable justification for their answers.

Practicing giving with shoes

