

Maisy's Piggy Bank

A Readers' Theater About Saving Money

by Donna Latham

Will Maisy save enough coins to buy the purple basketball? Find out—and don't forget to read with expression and energy.



Characters (in order of appearance)

- Voice One
- Bike
- Voice Two
- Maisy
- Voice Three
- Voice Four
- Voice Five
- Bright Idea
- Voice Six
- Shopkeeper

Voice One: One sunny April day, Maisy rode her bike past the toy store window. Her eyes bugged, and she hit the brakes.

Bike: Screeeeech!

Voice Two: She hopped off her bike and peered into the window.

Maisy: Wow! Coolest. Basketball. Ever. It's purple- my favorite color in the universe.



Voice Three: Maisy twisted her head to read the price tag.

Maisy: Yikes, \$9.99. It might as well be a million bucks. Where am I going to dig up \$9.99?

Voice Four: She sighed and her shoulders slumped.

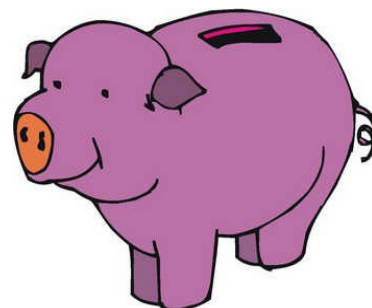
Voice Five: Suddenly, a bright idea tapped Maisy on the back.

Bright Idea: Ahem! Bright Idea to Maisy: Think, Maisy, think.

Maisy: Got it! I'll save coins in my piggy bank.

Bike: Her tires squealed as she dashed back home. Squeal. Squeal. Squeal.

Maisy: Ta-daa! Here's my bank. Purple, of course. I'll stash pennies in my bank.



Voice Six: So, on that bright April day, Maisy clanked pennies into her bank.

All Roles: Clank, clank, clank!

Voice One: On a steamy July day, Maisy zoomed to her purple piggy bank with a fistful of nickels.

Maisy: Yay! I earned a nickel for each weed I yanked from Mr. Wong's garden. Now, I'll stash nickels in my bank.

Voice Two: She clinked nickels into her bank.

All Roles: Clink, clink, clink!

Voice Three: On a crisp October day, Maisy zipped on her bike to check on the basketball.

Maisy: Phew, my basketball is still in the window.

Voice Four: Dimes jingled and jangled in her pockets as she raced home.

Maisy: I earned dimes for raking Mrs. Fiero's leaves. Now, I'll stash them in my bank.

Voice Five: She plinked dimes into her bank.

All Roles: Plink, plink, plink!

Voice Six: One blustery December day, Maisy trudged through snow. She peeked into the toy store. Her breath steamed up the window. She rubbed a spot clear with her mitten.

Maisy: Thank goodness! My ball's still there.

All Voices: Quarters thumped in her pockets as she slogged home through snowdrifts.

Maisy: I earned quarters for helping Mom shovel snow. Now, I'll stash them in my bank.

Voice One: She plonked quarters into her bank.

All Roles: Plonk, plonk, plonk!

Maisy: Wow! My piggy bank weighs a ton. I wonder if that means I've finally, finally, finally saved enough....

Maisy: First, I'll shake out pennies.

All Roles: Shake, shake, shake.

Maisy: Next, I'll shake out nickels.

All Roles: Shake, shake, shake.

Maisy: Then, I'll shake out dimes.

All Roles: Shake, shake, shake.

Maisy: Now, I'll shake out quarters.

All Roles: Shake, shake, shake.

Maisy: Finally, I'll count all the coins. Every single cent.

All Roles: Clank, clink, plink, plonk!

Voice Two: She stacked the coins.

Voice Three: She counted them carefully.

Maisy: Nine ninety-seven, nine ninety-eight, nine ninety-nine!

All Voices: Whoopee! Nine ninety-nine!

Voice Four: Maisy dashed to the toy store, weighted down with coins.

Maisy: Oh, no! Are you kidding me? My purple basketball's gone!

Voice Five: Maisy charged inside.

Shopkeeper: Hey! Like the new display? With the purple basketball and the cool, kids-sized hoop?

Maisy: Love it. And guess what? I finally saved enough to buy the ball. Then, I'll start saving for the hoop—and for a bigger piggybank!

Maisy's Piggy Bank

- How much did Maisy need to save to buy the purple basketball?
a. about nine dollars **b.** about five dollars
c. about ten dollars **d.** a million dollars
- Complete the graphic organizer.



**Three Ways Maisy
Earned Money**

A large, empty rounded rectangular box for writing the first way Maisy earned money.A large, empty rounded rectangular box for writing the second way Maisy earned money.A large, empty rounded rectangular box for writing the third way Maisy earned money.

- What clues from the story show that it took Maisy a long time to earn enough money to buy the basketball?

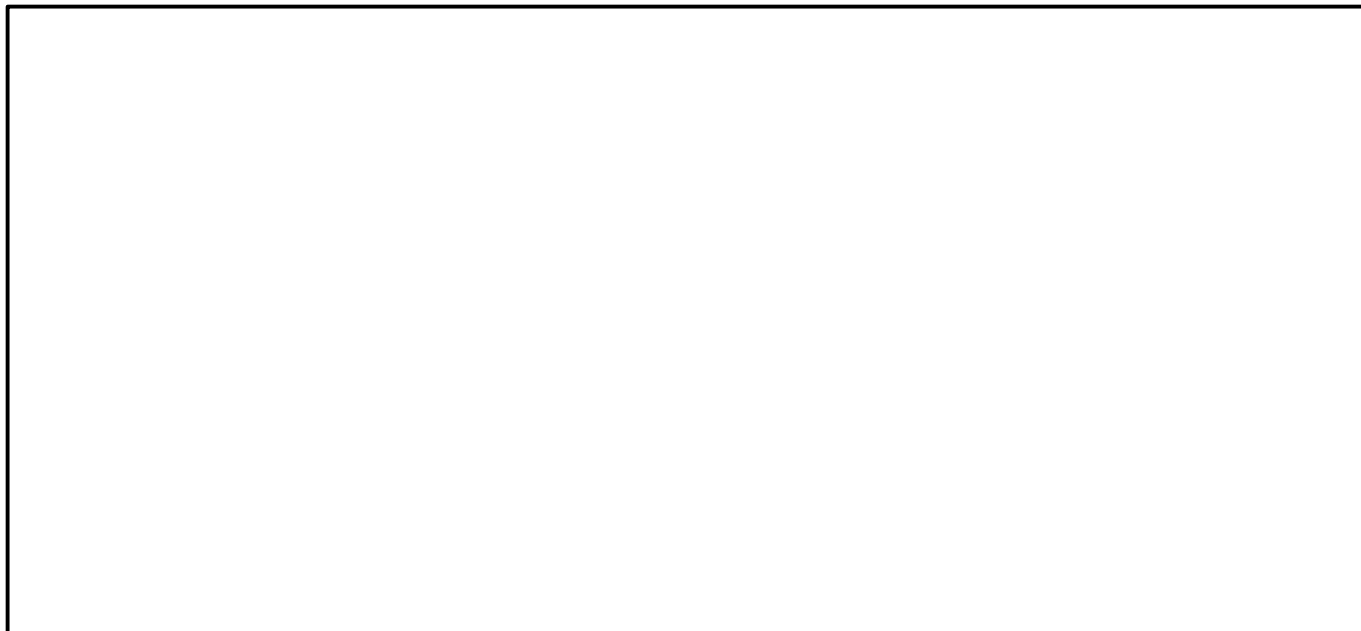
- What lesson does this story teach?

Name: _____

Writing

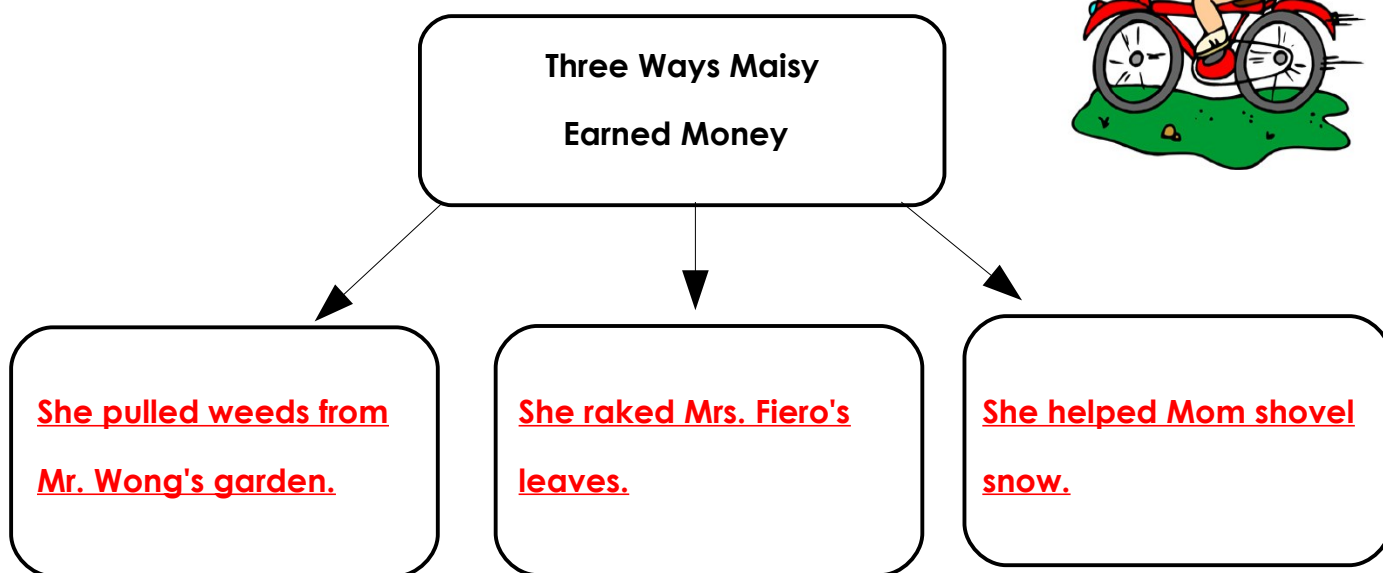
Saving Up For Something Special

In the story you just read, Maisy saved her money to buy something special. Write a paragraph about a time when you saved your money to buy something special. Your story could be real or made-up. Draw a picture to go along with your paragraph.



Maisy's Piggy Bank - ANSWER KEY

- How much did Maisy need to save to buy the purple basketball? **c**
 - about nine dollars
 - about five dollars
 - about ten dollars**
 - a million dollars
- Completer the graphic organizer.



- What clues from the story show that it took Maisy a long time to earn enough money to buy the basketball?
The seasons kept changing throughout the story. She pulls weeds in the summer, rakes leaves in the fall, and helps Mom shovel in the winter.
- What lesson does this story teach?
If you are patient and work hard, you can save up for something you want.