



Fox On The Job

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Program Description: Ways to learn money is the focus of this episode in which viewers meet a young entrepreneur who has started a nail polish business and experiences interesting ways to walk dogs.

Math Concepts:

- money values
- symmetry
- geometric shapes

• **Symmetry & geometry.** Working in cooperative groups, have students design and then build a Lego creation that is symmetrical. Discuss with them how they might plan their design on paper so that the result will be symmetrical (e.g., work out from a center line; draw one side, fold the paper, and rub the design with a soft lead pencil or dark crayon to the other side). Display all creations and have students describe them. Encourage students to use the names of specific Lego shapes, such as "square" or "rectangle," as they talk about the construction of their Lego creation.

• **Set up a class business.** This could be a mythical business; however, students will learn many practical skills by making their business operational. They will need to decide on a product. For a "real" business, the product needs to be within what the children can accomplish. A food product, such as popcorn, Kool-Aid™, or no-bake cookies, or inexpensive school supplies, such as pencils and erasers, are possibilities. The product could also be an item the children make, such as bookmarks or book jackets.

They will need to research the cost of supplies before setting a price for their product. They will need to plan and prepare their advertising material. Also, they might design a business card and make copies for everyone.

Early in the project, they should decide how they will spend the money they earn. Will it be something for the classroom, such as books or games; for a field trip; for the school, such as a tree for the school yard; or a donation to a charitable fund?

- **Money values & basic operations:** Teams of classroom “accountants” should maintain the “books” daily and review the day’s business activity for the whole class at the end of the day. This information can be recorded on a large chart pad set up in a simple ledger format. Daily sales can be graphed, so that students can see the progress of their business over time.

Do-At-Home Activity

- **Interview parents about their childhood jobs.** Have students design an interview with parents about the kinds of jobs that children had when their parents were young. What was their first job? How much were they paid? Did they have an allowance? How much? How did they earn it? How did they use their allowance? Have students bring their interview information to school so that they can compare then and now. Discuss how the amount of an allowance then might not be appropriate now.