

## Alexander, Who Used to Be Rich Last Sunday

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### **AUTHOR:**

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Alexander's grandparents gave him a dollar. He wants to save it to buy walkie-talkies, but it is harder than he thinks.

**Ages:** 4 to 8 years

### **Interest Level:**

Preschool to 3rd grade

### **ATOS Reading**

**Level:** 3.4

**Lexile:** 570L

**ISBN:** 9780689711992

**Copyright:** 1978

**Genre:** Fiction

**Classification:** Picture Story Book

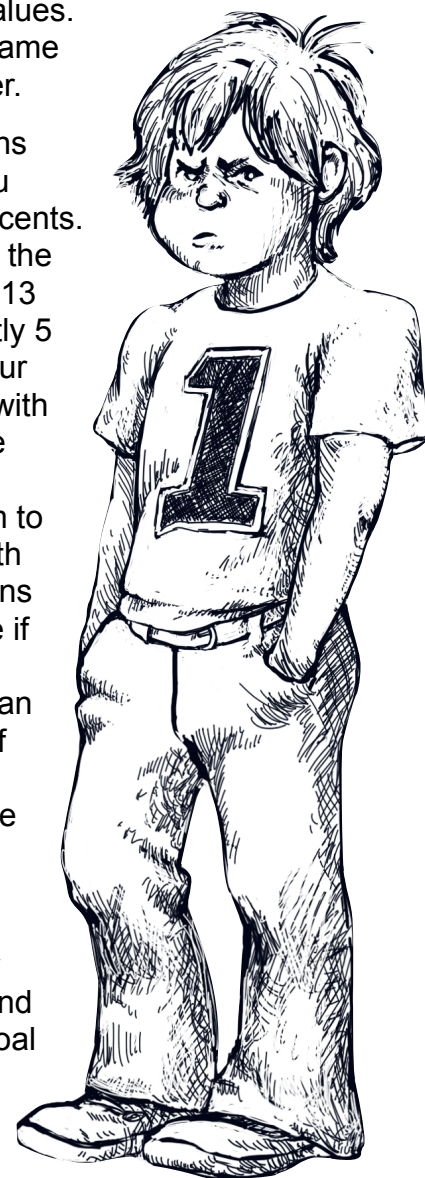
# Alexander Who Used to be Rich Last Sunday

**Will Alexander save or spend the dollar his grandparents gave him?**

**Topics:** coin values, counting money, adding and subtracting money, saving money

**Math Connections:** *Alexander Who Used to Be Rich Last Sunday* can be used to introduce and reinforce money concepts. If your child is unfamiliar with coin values look at a collection of coins together. Identify a penny, nickel, dime, and quarter. Talk about what is the same and what is different about the coins. Compare their sizes, shapes, colors, images, edges, and talk about the difference in their values. Explore how many pennies have the same value as a nickel, a dime, and a quarter.

If your child is already familiar with coins and their values, ask them to show you several different ways to represent 25 cents. Challenge them to make 25 cents with the greatest number of coins, with exactly 13 coins, with exactly 12 coins, with exactly 5 coins, and with exactly 3 coins. Ask your child if it is possible to make 25 cents with exactly 6 coins. Ask your child to prove why or why not. If your child is very comfortable with coins, challenge them to find all of the ways to make a dollar with coins. Ask them how many combinations they think there are. Ask them to prove if there were more or less combinations than they predicted. Ask them if they can find a way to record and organize all of the combinations of coins equal to a dollar so they will know when they have all the possible ways. Allow time to do this, there are more than 200 combinations! Help your child set a money saving goal and talk about how much money could be saved weekly and how long it would take to reach their goal at that rate of saving. Consider visiting a local bank and establishing a savings account together.



## Extension Questions:

1. Why do you think it was so hard for Alexander to save money to buy walkie talkies?
2. Alexander bought things, lost money, and paid fines with the money his grandparents gave him. What did he spend the most money on?
3. Is there something you want to save money to buy? If so, what is your strategy for doing it?
4. What do you think are good ways for children to earn and save money? What advice would you give to Alexander if he asked for your opinion?

<b>Vocabulary for Building Math Concepts</b>	dime, dollar, nickel, penny, quarter
<b>Vocabulary for Extending Math Concepts</b>	saving, spending, value
<b>Vocabulary for Reading Comprehension</b>	lox, telephone booth, tokens, walkie-talkie



## Early Math Project Resources:

[Race to a Dollar](#) (English)

[Carrera hacia un Dólar](#) (Spanish)

## Online Resources:

[Federal Reserve Banks of St. Louis and Philadelphia K - 2 lesson plan](#)

## Spanish Title:

*Alexander que era rico el domingo pasado*

**Copyright:** 1989

**ISBN:** 9780758719188

## Also available in:

German, Korean

## Related Books:

*A Chair for My Mother* by Vera B. Williams; *You Can't Buy a Dinosaur with a Dime* by Harriet Ziefert

## Find this book at your local library:

<https://www.worldcat.org/title/alexander-who-used-to-be-rich-last-sunday/oclc/946145191?referer=di&ht=edition>

Age Level	Related Preschool Foundations and CA State Standards
Infant/ Toddler	Not applicable
Preschool/ TK	Not applicable
Grade 1	<b>Operations and Algebraic Thinking</b> <a href="#">1.OA.5</a> Relate counting to addition and subtraction (e.g., by counting on 2 to add 2). <b>Number and Operations in Base Ten</b> <a href="#">1.NBT.4</a> Use place value understanding and properties of operations to add and subtract.
Grade 2	<b>Number and Operations in Base Ten</b> <a href="#">2.NBT.5</a> , <a href="#">2.NBT.7</a> Use place value understanding and properties of operations to add and subtract. <b>Measurement and Data</b> <a href="#">2.MD.8</a> Solve word problems involving dollar bills, quarters, dimes, nickels, and pennies.
Grade 3	<b>Number and Operations in Base Ten</b> <a href="#">3.NBT.2</a> Use place value understanding and properties of operations to perform multi-digit arithmetic.

