

A Chair for My Mother

Author & Illustrator: **Vera B. Williams**

Materials

Paper, crayons or markers, pencils, plastic coins, small containers.



Joel Says

Before the book is read, ask...

If you could give your mother anything in the world what would it be? Why?

Stop during the reading and ask...

How does the family in the book work together to save for a new chair? What are some of the ways your family works together? How do the neighbors help the girl's family? How do you help your neighbors? How do they help you?

After reading the book, ask...

What does the girl do to earn money to put in the jar? How do you earn money? What would you like to buy with money you save?

Activity

Give younger children plastic pennies, nickels and dimes and have them identify each type of coin and its value. Then ask them to sort the coins into like piles. Write on the top of a piece of paper "_____ is saving money for _____." Children can then draw a picture illustrating the sentence.

For children beginning to learn about the value of money a fun activity is to give each a pile of plastic coins including pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters and then ask each child to make a chart stating the name of each coin and its value. Help younger children with the writing. Then, ask each child use his or her coins to represent 15¢ (or other amounts) in two different ways. Write "I am saving money for _____." on a sheet of paper. Have each child copy the sentence on her own piece of paper. Then have the child draw a picture of what he or she wants to buy.

Older children may enjoy taking a small container of plastic coins containing pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters and sorting coins into groups equaling one dollar. Have them total the amount of the "savings." On the top of a piece of paper, have each child copy the following sentence, filling in the blanks: "I have saved _____ ¢ or \$_____. I would like to buy _____." The child may then illustrate what he or she would like to buy.