Money at the Fair

Read how money helps people trade and buy goods.

3.E.5 "List the characteristics of money, and explain how money makes trade and the purchase of goods easier."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle three features of money in the passage. Underline two ways money makes buying or trading easier.

Nia's Plant

1. At the school fair, Nia wants a small plant. She has a bag of popcorn to trade, but the plant seller does not want popcorn. Without money, Nia would have to find someone who wants her popcorn and has something the seller wants. That could take a long time. With money, she can pay the plant seller instead of making several trades.

2. Money works well because most people agree to accept it for goods. A coin is easy to carry in a pocket, and it can be used again and again without falling apart. Coins and bills come in different amounts, so buyers can pay for items with different prices. Sellers can show a price, and buyers know how much money to bring.

3. At the fair, Nia pays three dollars for the plant. The seller can use that money later to buy soil, even from a person who does not want plants. Nia did not need to find the perfect trade partner. Money also lets her compare prices. If two plants cost three dollars and five dollars, she can see which one costs less.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Name two features of money from the passage. How does each feature help a buyer or seller?

2. The plant seller does not want Nia's popcorn. How does money make this trade easier?

3. How do coins and bills in different amounts make it easier to buy goods?

4. Why can the plant seller use Nia's money to buy soil from someone who does not want plants?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine you made bookmarks and want a soccer ball, but the ball seller does not want bookmarks. In three sentences, explain how you could get money for your bookmarks and buy the ball, and name two features of money that help.

ANSWER KEY

Money at the Fair

GRADE 3 · 3.E.5

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle three features of money in the passage. Underline two ways money makes buying or trading easier. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Name two features of money from the passage. How does each feature help a buyer or seller?	**A coin is easy to carry, so a buyer can take it to a seller. Coins and bills come in different amounts, so buyers can pay different prices.**
2	The plant seller does not want Nia's popcorn. How does money make this trade easier?	**Nia can pay for the plant with money instead of finding someone to make several trades with.**
3	How do coins and bills in different amounts make it easier to buy goods?	**Buyers can use them to pay for goods with different prices.**
4	Why can the plant seller use Nia's money to buy soil from someone who does not want plants?	**Most people agree to accept money for goods, so the soil seller does not need to want plants.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I could sell my bookmarks to someone who wants them and take the money to the ball seller. The money is easy to carry to the shop. The seller accepts money even though the seller does not want my bookmarks.

For the marking job, accept any three features stated in the passage and any two stated ways money makes buying or trading easier. For Your Turn, accept three sentences that describe selling the bookmarks, using the money to buy the ball, and two accurate features of money.