

Borrowing Money

Students will listen to the story *Country Bear's Good Neighbor* by Larry Dane Brimner and discuss what happens in the story. After the discussion, the students will have an activity related to the topic in the story.

Students will learn:

- The meaning of borrowing
- Costs associated with borrowing

Discussion:

Ask:

How do you think the girl felt when Country Bear borrowed some apples?

(Allow the students to share what they think.)

How do you think the girl felt when Country Bear came back again and again to borrow things?

(Allow the students to share what they think.)

Explain:

The girl was angry with Country Bear because he was being a *moocher*. What do you think that word means?

(A moocher is someone who is always borrowing or using things that belongs to others.)

Using the Visual: Items Country Bear Borrowed, ask the students to think of all the items Country Bear borrowed from the girl. **Allow** the students to respond and print the name of each item on the board or flip chart. Post the picture of the items alongside the printed words.

Items Country Bear borrowed:

- Apples
- Sugar
- An Egg
- Flour
- Walnuts
- Cinnamon
- Butter
- Milk

Ask:

How did the girl feel at the end of the story?

(Allow the students to share what they think.)

Ask:

Why do you think she was happy?

(The girl was happy because Country Bear returned what he borrowed in the form of a delicious cake!)

Explain and Ask:

There are two words used to describe what was going on between Country Bear and the girl. Those words are “borrower” and “lender”. Can you guess who was the lender and who was the borrower?

(Allow the studentss to share what they think.)

Explain

The girl was the lender. A lender allows someone to use (not have) his/her things.

Country Bear was the borrower. A borrower is someone who uses items that belong to another person.

Some lenders charge money, called a fee, for letting others use their things.

Ask

Raise your hand if you have ever rented a video game or movie?

Who would like to describe what happened in the store?

Select one child to answer the following questions:

Can you tell us the name of the game or video you got?

Did you have to pay any money? *(Yes, the rental fee.)*

Do you know how much you had to pay? *(May or may not know this. Share an estimate of maybe \$5 - \$10.)*

What did you do with the game/video? *(Took it home and viewed/played it.)*

Did you keep the game/video? (*No, I had to return it.*)

When did you have to return it to the store? (*Estimate 3-5 days.*)

What would happen if you did not return it? (*Late fee or not be able to rent from the store again.*)

Were you the renter or borrower when you rented the game or video?

Explain:

When you took the video or movie home from the store, you were the borrower. The storeowner was the lender and you paid a fee to get the video or movie.

A bank is a business where grownups can go to borrow things.

Ask:

What do you think people can borrow from a bank? (*Money.*)

What do you think people do with the money they borrow from a bank?

(Build homes, buy cars, pay for college, etc.)

Explain:

When people borrow money from a bank, they have to pay all of the money they borrowed plus a fee called interest.

For example, let's say your parents borrowed \$1,000 from a bank, and they had to pay back a total of \$1,100 or \$100 more than they borrowed. The extra \$100 would be interest.

Borrowers and lenders in the grownup world usually get along and don't become angry like the girl did with Country Bear.

Ask:

What do you think helps borrowers and lenders get along so well?

Explain:

Borrowers and lenders get along because there are rules each must follow. Here are some of the rules:

- The lenders must keep a record of all the money the borrower pays back.
- The borrower must pay interest.

- They both must sign a paper with all of the rules on it.

Activity: Borrowing Art Project

- Arrange the students at three tables.
- Hand out only the glue and scissors to each table and the rest of the supplies according to the following:
 - At the first table, place only the paper.
 - At the second table. place a container full of markers.
 - At the third table, place the rest of the decorating items.

Ask the students to make a poster that shows the things they borrow or have seen others borrow.

Listen to what the students say when they do not have all of the supplies they need to make their posters at their tables.

Ask the students what they might do to get the supplies they need from the other tables (*borrow, trade or buy.*)

Allow the students to borrow items to create their projects. You may want to allow only one table at a time to seek the needed items in order to limit confusion.