

COUNTDOWN Challenge

Money

Inspired by really fun math stories and poems

Alexander, Who Used to be Rich Last Sunday by Judith Viorst is a story about a boy who has a hard time saving his money. The chart below shows what Alexander did with the \$1 his grandparents gave him. Did he have any money left to save?

Description of gift & expenditures	Cost	Balance
Gift from Grandma & Grandpa	--	\$ 1.00
Bought bubble gum	3 @ \$0.05	.15
		.85
Lost bets with brothers	3 @ \$0.05	.15
		.70
Rented friend's snake	1 hr @ \$0.12	
Penalty for saying bad words	2 @ \$0.05	
Lost bets with mom	1 @ \$0.08	
Ate brother's candy bar	1 @ \$0.11	
Disappeared in magic trick	\$0.04	
Penalty for kicking	\$0.05	
Bought garage sale items	\$0.20	

Smart by Shel Silverstein is a poem about a boy who spent his \$1 in a completely different way than Alexander.. Study the chart below to see if this boy was “smart” with his dollar.

		Now has	Difference
He started with	1 dollar bill	1.00	---
Traded it for	2 quarters	.50	.50
Then traded those for	3 dimes		.70
Then traded those for	4 nickels		
Then traded those for	5 pennies		