



# WELCOME!

The Let's Play Money printable packet is designed to inspire kids' interest in financial literacy, build money knowledge and habits, and serve as a tool to spark conversations about financial topics.

Each grade-level packet is full of skill-building games, puzzles, and other interactive activities based on financial literacy standards set forth by the National Financial Educators Council, the Washington State Financial Literacy Standards, and the National Content Standards for Entrepreneurship Education.

Learning about money fosters literacy (financial literacy is tied directly to strong reading literacy), numeracy (working with numbers), and sound practices (forming good habits, planning, and strategizing). To that end, each packet offers integrated opportunities to build reading and math skills while developing financial competencies.

According to the National Financial Educators Council, kids' financial habits are set by ages 7-9. It's never too soon to talk to kids about money, and the Let's Play Money packets are here to help you start those conversations with your kids. Now is the time!

Congratulations on taking this important step!

*Mara Williams*

Author - The Little Books Of Big Business  
 Certified Financial Literacy Educator



**Don't forget to follow me & check out additional resources on my [YouTube channel!](#)**



**YouTube Kids**



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ORDER!

**This is the April **Let's Play Money** printable packet for 6th graders.**

## GET STARTED

- Set up a regular schedule for Let's Play Money to build regular engagement.
- Print the Let's Play Money pages.
- Share the entire packet or offer individual pages for your kid to complete.
- Build opportunities to engage in real-life, money-oriented activities and conversations during the month.
- Go over your kid's work with them and check the answer key at the end of the packet.

## CONTENTS

1	Welcome Page
2	Table of Contents
3-4	Money News
5	Fun Page
6	Color Poster
7-8	Life Activity
9	Money Math
10	Cash Corner
11	Pop-up Shop
12-14	Business Story & Exercises
15	Color & Count
16	Instructional Information & Answer Pages

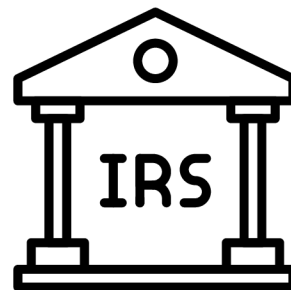


# LET'S PLAY MONEY

## NEWS

### WHAT IS THE IRS?

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is a U.S. government agency that helps America's taxpayers understand and meet their tax responsibilities. The IRS strives to enforce tax laws "with integrity and fairness to all."



The IRS carries out the responsibilities of the Treasury Secretary according to the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 7801. The IRS was created to support the Secretary's authority to administer and enforce the Internal Revenue laws.

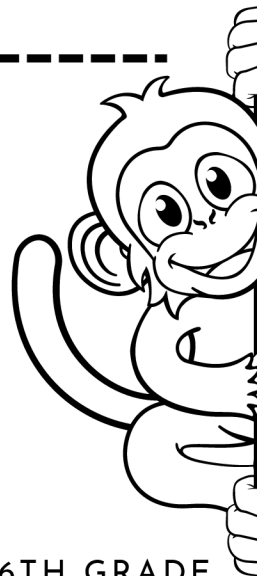
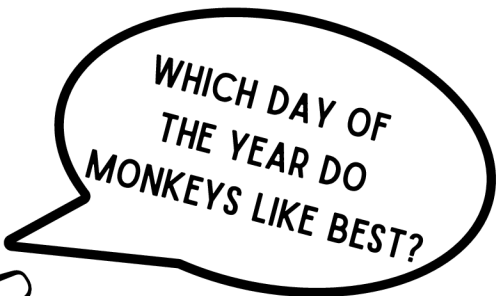
<https://www.irs.gov/about-irs>

### TAX RESPONSIBILITIES

In general, most U.S. citizens and permanent residents who work in the United States need to file a tax return if they make more than a certain amount of income for the year. The first step for filing a return is to determine your taxpayer status. There are five categories: single, head of household, married filing jointly, married filing separately, and qualifying surviving spouse.



<https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/who-needs-to-file-a-tax-return>



# DO TEENS NEED TO FILE A TAX RETURN



Teens who earn money may or may not need to file a tax return. The IRS provides up-to-date details each year on its website.

**Check here**



<https://www.irs.gov/individuals/check-if-you-need-to-file-a-tax-return>



## EARNED OR UNEARNED INCOME – SAY WHAT?

The Internal Revenue Services uses two forms of income to determine when a teen should file a tax return:

- **Earned Income** is money made from a job. This money could be a salary, hourly wages, tips, or paid fees for a service. For example, a teen's earned income could be from working at a restaurant, as a lifeguard, or at a grocery store.
- **Unearned Income** is money made from financial investments. This money includes interest, dividends and capital gains, rents, and royalties. Unearned income can also come from distributions of interest, dividends, capital gains, and other unearned income from a trust to trust beneficiaries.

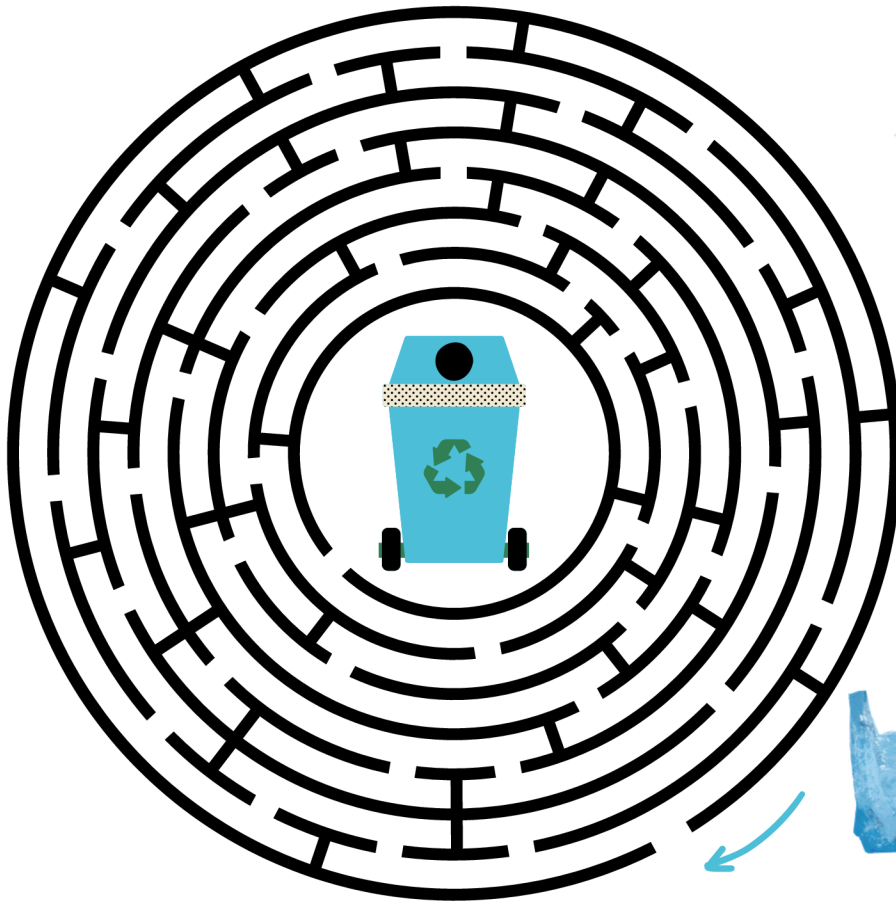
<https://www.investopedia.com/teens-and-income-taxes-7152618>

# FUN PAGE

Earth Day is all about protecting our planet. Help the plastic bag find its way to the recycling bin by solving this maze.



April 22nd



Start here

April

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**What kind of gardens do bakers grow?**

**Flour gardens.**



# COLOR POSTER



# LIFE ACTIVITY



## Your Paycheck

Workers earn money by working for an employer. The employer provides the employee a paycheck at the end of the pay period. It is most common to be paid twice per month but some employers pay weekly or once per month.

**A Wage is a payment made for work done in a specific period of time. Example \$10 per hour**

**A salary is when you pay employees the same amount each pay period regardless of how much they work. Example \$2,000 per month**



Write down Wage or Salary after each scenario:

1. Harry worked 8 hours as a lifeguard last week. He will pick-up his check this Friday for \$96, less any taxes.
2. Sarah worked 38 hours last week and will work 46 hours this week. She gets a direct deposit into her checking account on the 1st and 15th of every month for \$2,500.
3. Jerry spent 22 hours mowing lawn and 7 hours pulling weeds last week. He tracks his hours on a time sheet and his boss will write him a check at the end of the workday tomorrow.
4. Barbara is the manager of a grocery store. She works Tuesdays through Saturdays and sometimes she comes in on Sundays too. She picks up her paycheck of \$1,750 from the front office every other Friday.

# LIFE ACTIVITY

## Tax Form: W-2



Form W-2 is a Wage and Tax Statement that employers are required to send to each employee at the end of the year. The information on the form shows the deductions the employer has withheld from the employee's paycheck. The information on this form is turned into the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and is used when filling out tax returns.

22222		Void <input type="checkbox"/>	* Employer's social security number 560-11-1234		OMB No. 1545-0048
b Employer identification number (EIN) 12-3456789		1 Wages, tips, other compensation 37847.06		2 Federal income tax withheld 4238.29	
c Employer's name, address, and ZIP code New Tech Company 100 New Tech Rd. Suite #123 Louisville, KY 40058		3 Social security wages 37847.06		4 Social security tax withheld 2346.41	
		5 Medicare wages and tips 37847.06		6 Medicare tax withheld 548.89	
		7 Social security tips		8 Allocated tips	
d Control number		9		10 Dependent care benefits	
e Employee's first name and initial Last name Suffix Ann M. Smith 1713 West Palm Way Apt 101 Louisville, KY 40048		11 Nonqualified plans		12a See instructions for box 12	
		13 Service retirement Security other <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		12b	
f Employee's address and ZIP code		14 Other		12c	
15 State Employer's state ID number KY A123456789		16 State wages, tips, etc. 37847.06		17 State income tax 1849.21	
		18 Local wages, tips, etc. 37847.06		19 Local income tax	
				20 Locality name	

Form **W-2** Wage and Tax Statement **20XX** Department of the Treasury—Internal Revenue Service  
 Copy B-To Be Filed With Employee's FEDERAL Tax Return.  
 This information is being furnished to the Internal Revenue Service.

Form Source Sample: <https://www.halfpricesoft.com/w2-software/w2-forms-sample.asp>

**Write down the following using the W-2 form above:**

**A. Social Security Number**

**B. Wages, tips & other compensation**

**C. Social security tax withheld**

**D. Medicare tax withheld**

**E. Employee's first name**

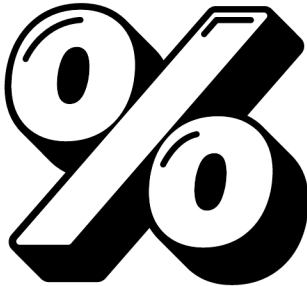
Additional Source: <https://www.investopedia.com/terms/w/w2form.asp#:~:text=Form%20W%2D2%2C%20also%20known,taxes%20withheld%20from%20their%20paychecks.>

# MONEY MATH

## FICA

The Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) is a U.S. federal payroll tax that is deducted from each employee paycheck.

### How much comes out of my paycheck?



6.2% of your gross wages goes to Social Security Tax.

1.45% of your gross wages goes to Medicare Tax.

\*Employers match these percentages for a total of 15.3%

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Calculate the following:

Monthly Salary \$2,800

Social Security Tax (6.2%)

Medicare Tax (1.45%)

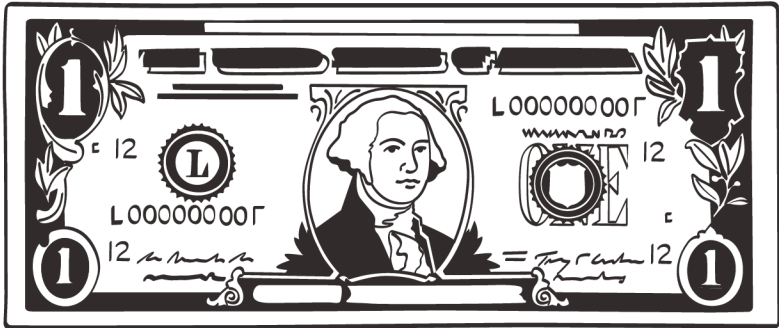
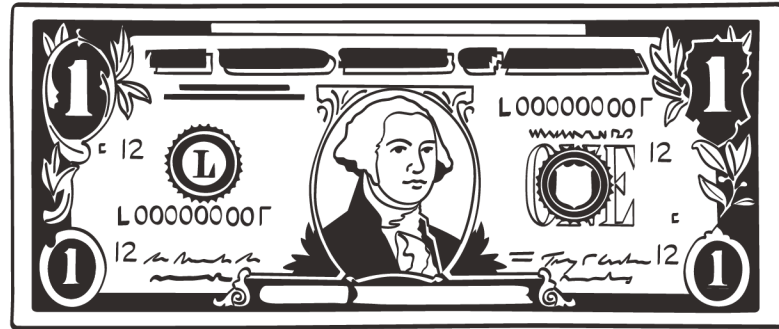
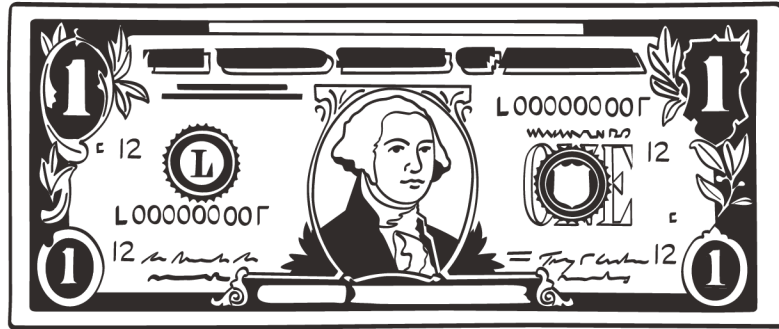
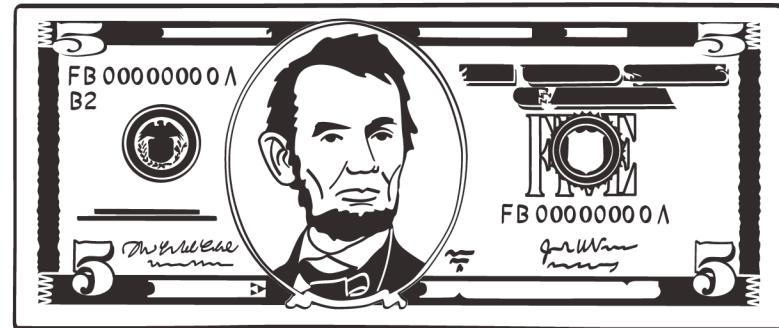
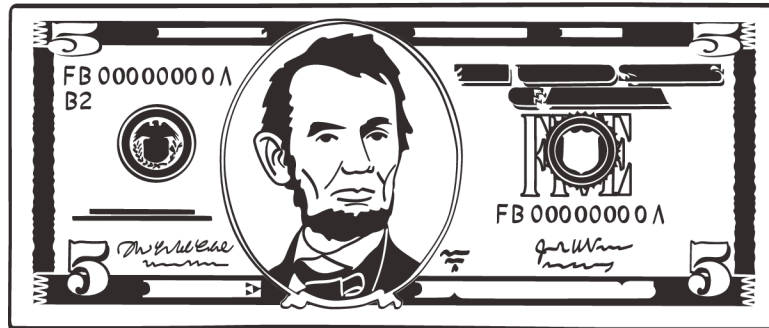
Monthly Salary \$4,300

Social Security Tax (6.2%)

Medicare Tax (1.45%)

# CASH CORNER

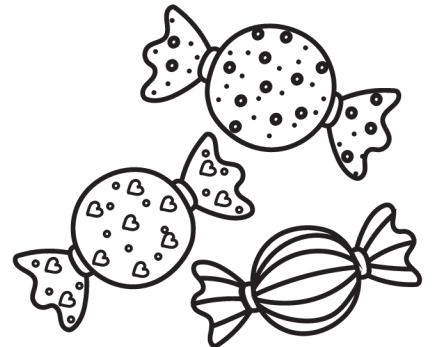
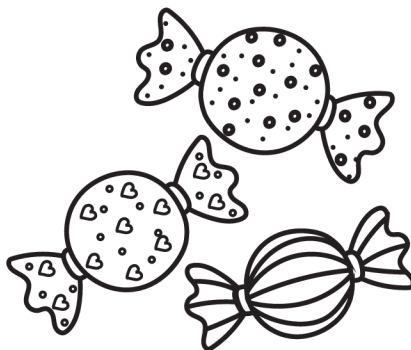
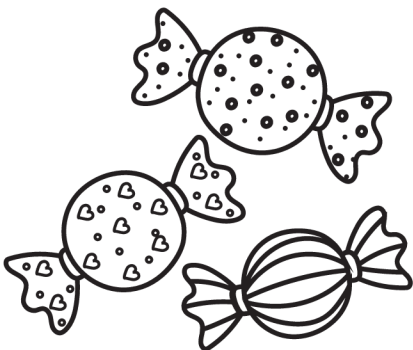
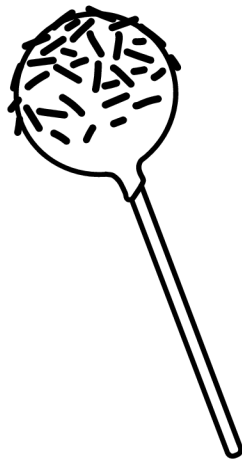
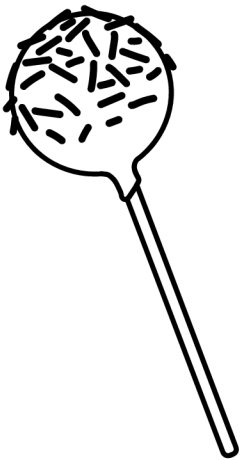
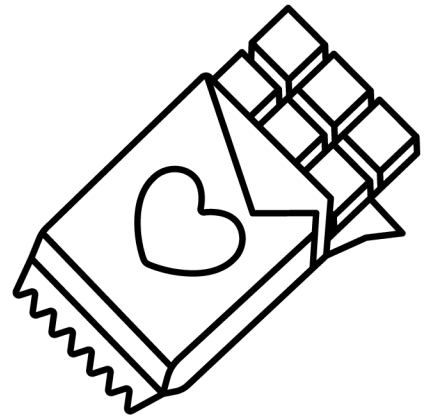
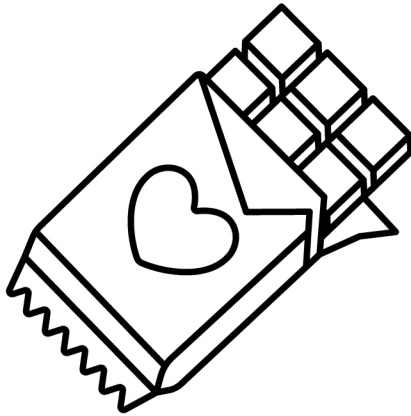
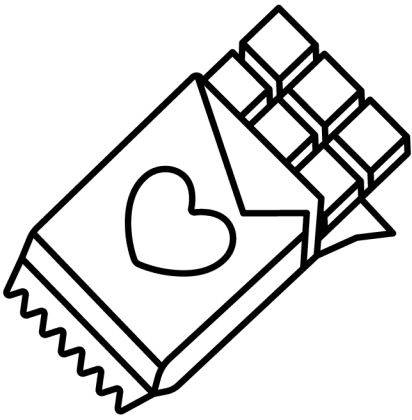
Color and cut the cash.  
Use the cash on the next page for a Pop-up Shop.



# POP-UP SHOP

Start a Pop-up Shop. Color and cut out the products on this page and sell them in your shop. Decide how much each item costs. Make more products by printing extra pages or designing your own. Give some money to your customer to spend. (Use the cash on the previous page.) Keep some money in an envelope or cash register to give back change.

## SWEET SHOP



# BUSINESS STORY



## Excerpt from “Max England Turns A Pet Project Into Pay”

The final part of my business open house event preparation was to get everything set up. The party would start at three o'clock.

The first surprise of the day was that the sun came out. We had planned for April showers, but instead, we had a bright day for the party.

Mr. Anders was the first pet to arrive right after the party began. Mrs. Toffer led him in, and he followed her slowly, but when he saw me and the red ball, he started running and playing with Sammy.

Mrs. Reed came by to say hello but didn't bring Alley since she was an indoor cat. She brought her daughter Rosemary who had just adopted a new dog named Angel. Rosemary had a busy job and was worried that Angel wasn't getting enough exercise. I showed her my menu of services poster on the front table, including dog walking services. She hired me on the spot to walk Angel three times a week starting the following week.

My mom's friend Julie from across town ordered a pet portrait for her mom for Mother's Day. She would give me a picture of her mom's cat and I would work on the sketch as a surprise.

I got several additional clients, including two reservations for cat sitting over the summer. Rosemary also had a neighbor who needed dog walking, so each time I walked Angel, I would make double the money because Pumpkin would walk with us.



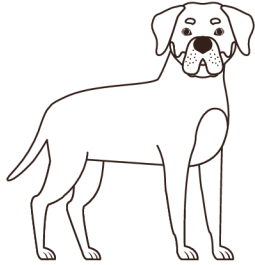


# GET PAID

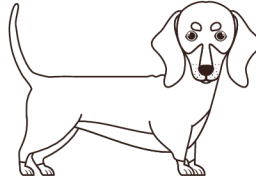


## Earn Money

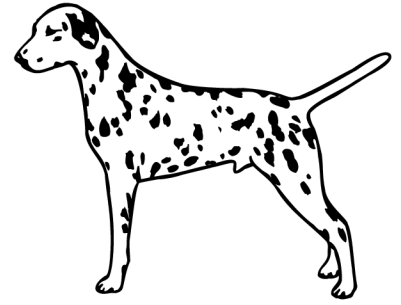
When Max was 12 years old he got paid to walk the neighbors' dogs.  
Add up how much he got paid in cash for each dog.



Gus



Scooter



Angel



\$

\$

\$

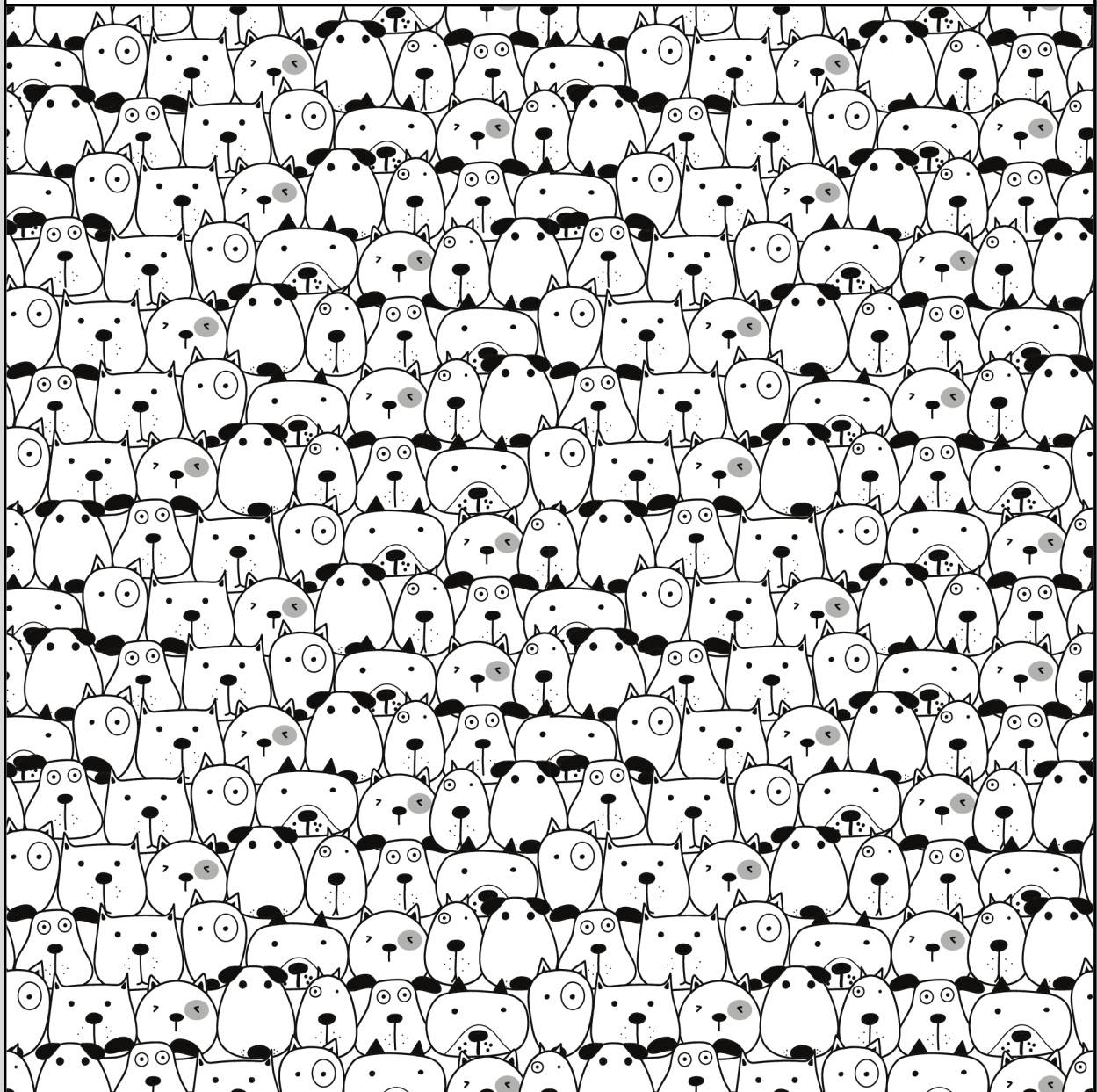
When Max turned 16 he got a job working at the dog groomers. He was paid by Direct Deposit into his teen checking account. Calculate how much he got paid for working 16 hours. His wage is \$11 per hour and his employer deducts 7.65% from his wages for the FICA tax.



# COLOR & COUNT

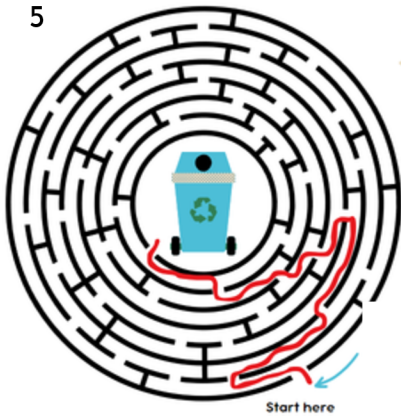
Color the dogs using a colorful pattern then count them. How many did you find?

Answer:



# INSTRUCTIONAL INFORMATION & ANSWER PAGE

3-4 Money News - Kids learn about money through stories. Let kids read the Let's Play Money newsletter and ask open-ended questions such as: What do you think about that? How does this impact you or our family? What action steps or changes do you think could be made?



5

6 Color

7: 1. Wage 2. Salary 3. Wage 4. Salary

8 A. 560-11-1234 B. 37847.06 C. 2346.41 D. 548.89 E. Ann

9 Left: Social Security \$173.6 Medicare \$40.60

Right: Social Security \$266.60 Medicare \$62.35

10 Kids color and cut the cash to use on page 11.

11 Kids color and cut-out products for the pop-up shop. They share cash from page 10 with a friend or family member and sell the pizza products and give change as needed.

12 Read

13 Kids think about what to charge for each service. If they need a starting point, consider \$10 per hour as a rate a babysitter might charge. How does that job compare to walking a dog or stopping by to feed a cat. Have your kid ask a few grown-ups for feedback. Would they pay that much?

14 Gus \$32, Scooter \$35, Angel \$44, Direct Deposit ( $\$11 \times 16 \text{ hours} = \$176$ , less  $\$13.45$  FICA tax)  $\$162.55$

15 If all the dog faces are counted, including partial faces, there are approximately 247. You can also use an estimating strategy ( $14 \text{ dogs across by } 16 \text{ down} = 224 \text{ whole faces}$ )

## Stay Connected!

Financial Literacy Standards in this packet include:

(1) The WA State Financial Education Standards for Grade 6:

- Employment & Income (6EI) 5,8

(2) NFEC Grade 6:

- Income, Careers, Business, and Entrepreneurship Standards: Explain how a job is different from a career and how preparing for a career has various costs, but also has expected financial return.

- **Subscribe to my monthly email list for ongoing resources and VIP products and continue your kid's financial literacy education at [TheLittleBooksOfBigBusiness.com](http://TheLittleBooksOfBigBusiness.com).**

- **If you have other ideas or ways to improve the activities shared here, please feel free to add your personal touch and share with me: [Mara@TheLittleBooksOfBigBusiness.com](mailto:Mara@TheLittleBooksOfBigBusiness.com).**

Continue the momentum!

Help kids develop essential money management skills for life.

Order next month's Let's Play Money printable packet or subscribe monthly!

[www.TheLittleBooksOfBigBusiness.com](http://www.TheLittleBooksOfBigBusiness.com)