

# Fund It



A gold coin lands in a jar. A jar pays for a road. A road brings the bus to school. That is the trip we take today.

# What you will learn

## EP01 · Illustration

*Maya (red T-shirt, ponytail, freckles), Mateo (mustard henley, curly hair), and Alex (green hoodie) lean over a glowing book. A soft gold light shines from the page. Cream background with a thin navy frame.*

Maya, Mateo, and Alex want to know where coins go after we pay them.

LEDGER says, 'Let us follow one coin and see.'

### Key takeaways

- A tax is a small share of money for shared things.
- Shared things are roads, schools, and fire trucks.
- Three jars help us picture the three kinds of tax.

### Big Idea

Taxes help pay for things we all share.

# What is a tax?

## EP01 · Illustration

*A single gold coin floats above three open palms made of soft cream light. A trail of gold sparkle shows the coin's path. Navy starry background frames the scene. Chibi-Pixar style.*

A tax is a small piece of money. People send it to the town, the state, or the country.

The town uses it. The state uses it. The country uses it. They build shared things with it.

## Key takeaways

- A tax is a small share, not all your money.
- It goes to a group, not to one person.
- The group builds shared things with it.

## Word to know

Share: to give a part of something to a group.

## Meet the three jars

### EP01 · Illustration

*Three labeled glass jars in a row on a warm wooden shelf. Each jar has a tiny icon glowing inside it: a book, a fire-truck wheel, a road sign. Gold coins float gently above each jar. Cream background. Navy shelf shadow.*

LEDGER lifts a curtain. Three jars glow on a long shelf.

One jar is for schools. One jar is for fire trucks. One jar is for roads.

Coins drop in. Coins flow out as good things for the town.

### Key takeaways

- School Jar pays for teachers and books.
- Fire-Truck Jar pays for safety helpers.
- Road Jar pays for streets and the school bus.

### Picture it

Three jars. Three jobs.

# Three kinds of tax

## EP01 - Illustration

*A tidy three-panel split: panel one shows a paycheck slip with a coin sliding off the edge; panel two shows a price tag with a small gold star next to it; panel three shows a chibi cottage with a coin floating above the roof. All in cream and navy with gold accent. Chibi-Pixar style.*

Income tax is a share of money people earn at a job.

Sales tax is a small bit added when you buy a thing in a store.

Property tax is a yearly share for a home or a shop.

### Key takeaways

- Income tax: from a paycheck.
- Sales tax: from a store buy.
- Property tax: from owning a home.

### Rule

Earn it, buy it, own it - each may share a small bit.

# Three layers of helpers

## EP01 - Illustration

*A coin splits like a glowing flower into three soft beams. Each beam ends at a tiny chibi building: a big domed federal hall, a state capitol with a star, and a small cozy town hall. Cream sky, navy night frame. Gold beam glow.*

Maya asks, 'Who gets the coin?'

LEDGER says, 'A coin can split into three soft pieces. One piece can go to the country. One piece can go to the state. One piece can go to the city.'

Each helper has its own jobs to do.

### Key takeaways

- Country (federal): big-country jobs like roads between states.
- State: state roads and many schools.
- City (local): your park, your school bus, your library.

### Tip

Many helpers. Many jobs. One team.

# Follow Mateo's coin

## EP01 · Illustration

*A long flowing path made of glowing gold dotted line. It starts at a tiny juice box on a store counter, curves into a glass jar labeled SALES, and ends at a friendly chibi pothole-repair scene with a smooth road and a school bus. Cream background. Magical sparkle realism.*

Mateo's mom buys juice. A tiny extra coin clinks into the sales-tax jar.

The jar fills up. The town uses it to fix a pothole on Maple Street.

Now the school bus rolls past with no bump.

## Key takeaways

- A small bit at the store...
- ...joins a jar with many small bits...
- ...and that jar fixes a real thing.

# Follow Maya's mom's coin

## EP01 · Illustration

*A glowing paycheck floats horizontally. A thin gold slice peels off the edge and drifts toward a clear jar labeled SCHOOL. Inside the jar, tiny chibi books and pencils swirl. A warm classroom scene glows in the background. Navy borders, cream interior.*

Maya's mom gets paid for her job. A small slice goes to income tax.

That slice helps pay teachers all over the state.

Maya's reading teacher smiles. The slice helped.

## Key takeaways

- A small slice from a paycheck...
- ...joins the school jar...
- ...and a teacher gets to teach.

## Word to know

Income: money someone earns at a job.

# Alex sees the fire truck

## EP01 · Illustration

*A friendly chibi fire truck mid-roll on a clean street, with one gold sparkle trailing from its ladder. A glass jar labeled FIRE TRUCK glows on a shelf in the upper corner, gently emptying as the truck moves. Cream sky, navy outlines.*

Alex hears a siren. A red fire truck rolls fast.

Property tax helps pay for that truck.

The town keeps the truck shiny and ready.

### Key takeaways

- Homes share a yearly bit...
- ...the bit fills the fire-truck jar...
- ...the truck is ready to help.

# But wait - is a tax mean?

## EP01 - Illustration

*Maya, Mateo, and Alex stand in a circle holding glowing gold coins. One small coin from each kid rises gently and floats toward a central glass jar. The kids smile. Soft golden particle dust drifts upward. Chibi-Pixar style.*

Alex frowns. 'Does the jar take my coin?'

LEDGER says, 'It is a small share, not a take. Most coins stay with you. Some coins help the town.'

Maya nods. 'So it is like a team coin?'

'Yes,' LEDGER says, 'a team coin.'

## Key takeaways

- A tax is a share, not a grab.
- Most of the money stays with the person.
- The small share helps the team.

## Team rule

A small share builds a big shared thing.

## Quick check

### EP01 · Illustration

*A close-up of the three jars on a softly lit shelf. A glowing question mark hovers above the middle jar. A chibi hand offers a small coin from outside the frame. Cream background, navy shelf, gold question mark.*

Look at the three jars again.

If you bought a book at a store, which jar might get a tiny coin?

Talk it through with a grown-up.

### Key takeaways

- Three jars: school, fire truck, road.
- Three taxes: income, sales, property.
- Three helpers: city, state, country.

### Try this

Name one shared thing you saw today.

# The rule to remember

## EP01 - Illustration

*A wide closing shot. The three kids sit on the floor in a cozy attic library. The three jars glow on a shelf above. A soft gold halo of light hovers near the ceiling representing LEDGER, never as a person. Warm cream-and-navy bedtime tone.*

Maya, Mateo, and Alex put their coins on the table.

LEDGER's gold light glows softly.

'Taxes,' LEDGER says, 'are how a country builds the stuff everyone gets to use.'

## Key takeaways

- Coins go to jars.
- Jars build shared things.
- Shared things make a better town.

## Rule to Remember

Taxes are how a country builds the stuff everyone gets to use.