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**Suggested Ages 4-8**

**Time: 45 min**

**Lesson:**

* Money Counting (coins/bills)
* The Importance of Saving
* Ways to Earn Money/Entrepreneurship
* Value in Earning Your Own Money
* Making Money Decisions
* Keeping Your Money Safe

Read the book aloud to the students. Pause at various points in the book to talk about how it feels to earn something yourself rather than just have something given to you. Also talk about ways to earn money and how important it is to keep your money in a safe place.

**Questions to encourage discussion:**

Curious George loved the toy store. What kinds of things do you like in a toy store? Would you say they are wants or needs? (discuss the difference)

What are some ways that you can earn money? What were some things that George did to earn money?

How long do you think it would take to earn $5.00?

What are some differences between pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters?

George lost his piggy bank on the way to the toy store. What was his mistake?

What is a good way to keep YOUR money safe? (Talk about opening a credit union account and the advantages that an account offers…safety, less tempting to spend, earning interest)

George decided to give the little girl a reward for turning in his piggy bank. What did he give her? What did it cost him? Would you have done the same thing?

**Suggested Activity:**

1. If in person, bring hula-hoops with you and have a hula competition! You may want to do this in the middle of the book, when you get to the part about the birthday party. This may take care of some restlessness! Break the kids into small groups and give each group a quarter to pass around to the one who can hula the longest!

Materials needed:
3-4 hula-hoops

1. Make your own money saver and set a goal to start saving for! Take simple supplies or have the teacher instruct the class to bring materials from home to make their own super money saver. A small tissue box works really well and already has an opening in the top! While they decorate it, have them think of something THEY would like to save up for and incorporate that theme into the decoration. They can write it on the box or draw a picture of the item on the box. You can also make this a class project and they can think of something they would all like to save for to donate to the classroom for all students to enjoy!

Materials needed:

Tissue boxes (1 for class or 1 for each student), markers, construction paper, glue, etc.

**Curious George Saves His Pennies**

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