LUCY'S MONEY ADVENTURE

Monetta Educational Products

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Dear Reader:

Welcome to Lucy's Money Adventure, a story about a little girl who travels back in time to barter with famous people in American history.

Not only does Lucy collect money for her school project, but she may also have actually changed American History as a result of her time travels.

See if you could figure out who these famous people were and the types of money they used.

Remember, money is only worth what people are willing to exchange for it. Sometimes, a simple trinket can be worth more than all the money in the world.

Have fun traveling through time.

Robert S. Bacarella

President

Get on Track

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Once upon a time, in a town called Hamilton, lived a little girl named Lucy. She was an excellent student who enjoyed collecting coins and trinkets. Many of her trinkets came from the toys in cereal boxes or from the prize machines in the local grocery store. Her pockets usually were filled with these trinkets.

One day at school, Lucy's social studies teacher asked the students to prepare a special report on some part of American history. Lucy decided to gather information about the various types of money that were used throughout our country's history.

Lucy knew that the word money came from the Latin word "Moneta", which was the name of the place in ancient Rome where money was made and stored. Before money, people would trade goods for the things they wanted or needed. This is called bartering. Lucy, in fact, would barter all the time, trading her trinkets for other trinkets, or for baseball cards, stickers, and other items she wanted to use or collect.

One day, her Uncle Einstein dropped by to visit with her family. He was an inventor who always told interesting stories. He mentioned that he was working on a special timepiece that would allow him to travel through time. He said that the prototype was almost completed and he was very excited about traveling through time.

Lucy thought it would be fun to go back in time and collect currencies from different time periods and show them to her class.

On her way home from school one day Lucy decided to stop by her Uncle Einstein's house to see his new invention. Her Uncle wasn't home at the time and, as usual, she waited for him in his workshop.

There, on her Uncle's workbench, was a strange looking timepiece. It had many historical dates on it and a red and a green button mounted on the side.

Lucy accidentally pressed the red button. Suddenly, she was transported from her Uncle's workshop to a train station. A young boy was selling newspapers nearby.

There were railroad cars unlike any Lucy had seen before. She realized she had traveled back through time, but was not sure where she was or what year it was!

The young boy, surprised to see Lucy, ran up to her and asked, "Who are you and where did you come from?"

"My name is Lucy," she said, "and I live in a town called Hamilton."

"What year is this?" Lucy asked.

"Why, it's 1859," said the boy.

"Neat," said Lucy. She then pulled out a little plastic flashlight she had in her pocket and asked the little boy if he would like to trade something for it. The boy was fascinated with the light and offered Lucy a 3¢ coin, dated 1857. Lucy was eager to trade for his coin and thanked him.

"I have to go now," said Lucy. "Have fun with the flashlight!"

"By the way," asked Lucy, "what is your name?"

She pressed the red timepiece button and as she started to fade away she heard him say,

"My name is Tommy Edison."

Lucy now found herself aboard an old ship, which appeared to be in the middle of an ocean. Everyone on board looked hungry and tired. A middle-aged, tall, bearded man came up to Lucy and asked what she was doing on his ship.

Lucy said, "I'm not sure how I got here."

The man laughed and said, "Well, it looks like we are all lost at sea!"

Lucy quickly went through her pockets and pulled out a small metal compass, a prize from a cereal box!

"Would you trade for this compass?" asked Lucy.

"Sure," said the bearded man. "I'll trade you this bag of gold coins which will be worthless if we can't find our way to land."

The man traded Lucy for the compass and began to study it carefully. Lucy then pushed the green button and as she faded away, she noticed another ship close by with the name "Pinta" on its bow.

Now Lucy found herself near a boat rental dock along a wide river. It appeared to be in the middle of winter; snow covered the ground and it was very cold.

As she approached the two men standing nearby, she overheard one say, "No General, paper money and IOUs are worthless to me!"

"But I need these boats for my men to cross the river, my good man. We must be able to negotiate acceptable terms."

"Do you have any other items to trade, General? Remember, I am a businessman and have a family to support."

"Maybe I can help, General," said Lucy. "I have some gold coins that I'm willing to trade."

"I'll take the gold coins!" said the boat rental owner. "Gold always has value to me. In exchange, I'll provide you with all the boats you need."

The General said, "All I can offer you, little girl, is this IOU for the value of your gold. Will you accept this?"

Lucy accepted immediately, thinking this was a valuable exchange. This General's signature might be worth more than money could buy in the future. This IOU could be a valuable piece of America's history.

Lucy was very excited about her trade as she pressed the green button and suddenly found herself outside of a run-down amusement park. The park looked dirty, and the workers were unshaven and dressed in worn-out clothes. Near her, sitting on a bench, was a young man who looked like he was drawing sketches.

Lucy approached the man who had a dark mustache and very friendly smile. She asked him why he wasn't in the amusement park.

"I'm thinking of designing a unique amusement park, one that's very clean and has specialty theme rides that will appeal to all ages," said the young man.

"What about those sketches?" asked Lucy.

"I'm trying to draw some special cartoon characters that children would like," said the young man.

Lucy immediately went through her backpack and pulled out a few cartoon stickers that she had won from a prize machine.

"Would you like to trade for these stickers?" asked Lucy.

The man was very impressed with the cartoon stickers and offered Lucy a dollar bill. Lucy, noticing that he held a silver certificate, said, "It's a deal!" and traded for the stickers.

As Lucy began to press the green button, the man asked her, "Who is the mouse character on this sticker?"

"His name is Mickey," Lucy replied as she faded away.

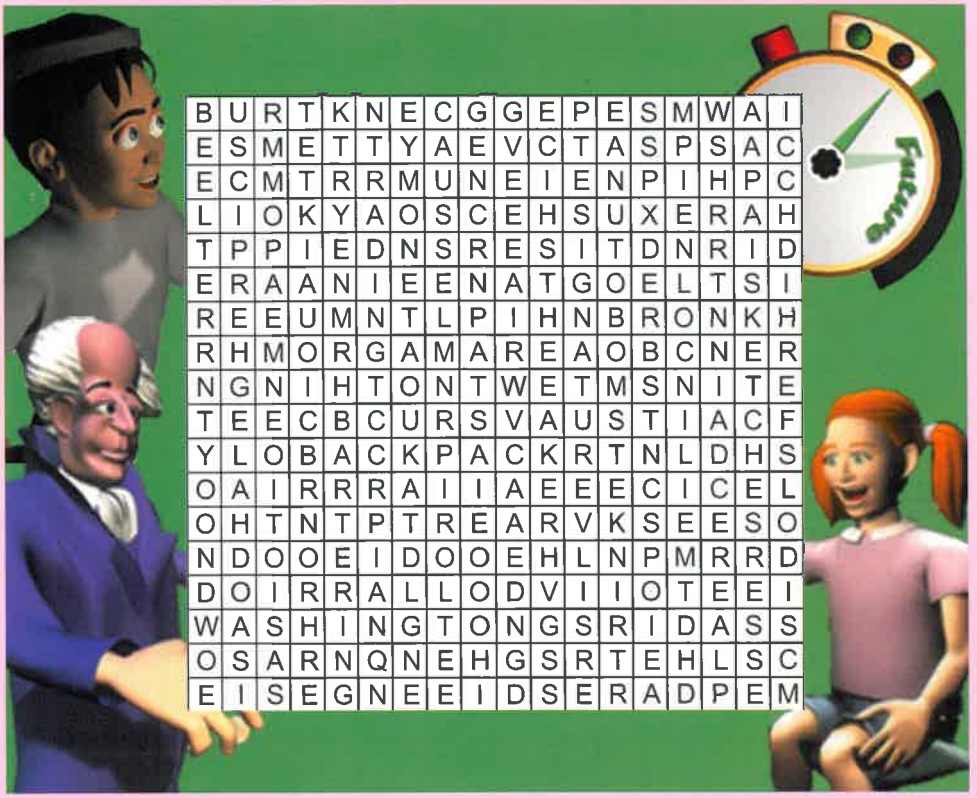
To her surprise, Lucy found herself back at her Uncle's workshop, and no time had gone by. She put her Uncle's timepiece back on his bench and ran home with the coins, IOU, and paper money she had collected in her time travels.

The next day in class Lucy explained the importance of bartering and showed the collection of notes and coins to her classmates.

Lucy pointed out that money, by itself, has no value. It is worth only what people are willing to exchange for it. At times, precious metals may be worth more than notes or coins, while an IOU may be worth more than precious metals.

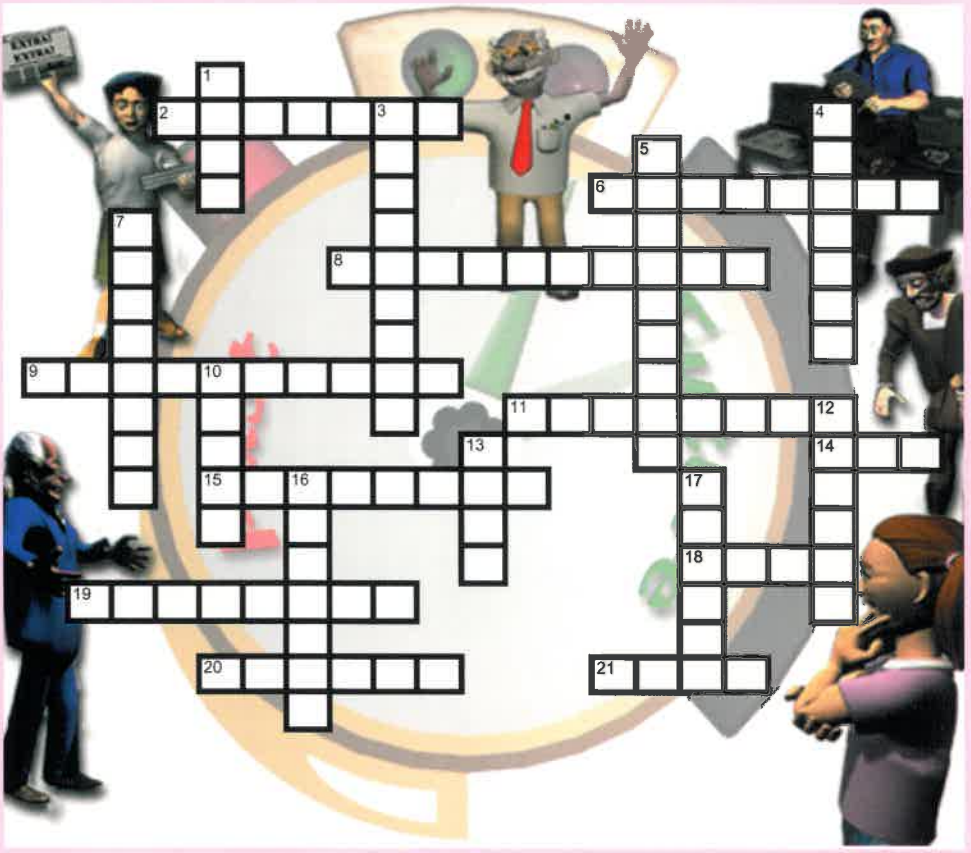
Everyone was impressed with Lucy's presentation and she received an excellent grade, which meant more to Lucy than all the money she had collected.

On her way home, Lucy thought about her time travel experience and the interesting people she met. She wondered if her meetings had changed historical events. What do YOU think?



BACKPACK
BARTERING
CARTOONS
CEREAL
COIN
COMPASS
DELAWARE
DOLLAR
EDISON
EINSTEIN
GOLD
IOU
LINCOLN
MONETA
MONEY
NEWSPAPERS
NOTHING
PAPER
ROME
SIGNATURE
SILVER
SKETCHES
TIME
TRADING
TRINKETS
WASHINGTON

Lucy's Adventure Crossword Puzzle



Hint: Use word search game for clues!

Lucy's Adventure Crossword Questions

ACROSS

2. What was worth more than a bag of gold to the ship's captain?
6. In her time travels, what did Lucy carry with her?
8. What famous General did Lucy help?
9. What was the boy selling in the railroad yard?
11. What did Lucy collect and carry with her for trading?
14. What was worth more to Lucy than gold?
15. What was the name of Lucy's uncle?
18. In what ancient city was money stored?
19. What was the man in the amusement park drawing?
20. The term money came from what Latin word?
21. What valuable metal was worthless on the ship?

DOWN

1. Lucy traded her flashlight for this?
3. What made the I.O.U. valuable to Lucy?
4. What is another term for bartering?
5. What term describes the trading of goods and services?
7. What river did the general need to cross?
10. What type of money didn't the boat rental operator accept?
12. Lucy traded for what kind of a dollar certificate?
13. What kind of machine did Lucy's uncle invent?
16. What is money, by itself worth?
17. What kind of boxes did Lucy find her trinkets in?

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