MAKING MONEY

People use money to buy things they need. People need food and clothes. They need a place to live. Money helps them get these things. People also use money to buy things they want, such as new toys. Sometimes people cannot afford to buy something they need or want. For instance, a nice toy might cost a lot of money. The price might be too high. Because of this, people save up their money so they can afford to buy things. But how do people get money?

Some people work at jobs in order to earn money. These people might have jobs in stores. They sell things to customers. They sell things people need or want. Salespeople sell things such as shoes or books. Bakers make breads and cakes to sell. Butchers sell meat. Florists sell flowers and plants. Grocery stores sell food. Customers pay money for these goods. The people who work in the store earn this money because they helped to sell things. Then they can use the money they earn to buy things they need or want.

Some people have jobs helping other people. Teachers help students learn. Doctors help people stay healthy. Firefighters put out fires to keep people and homes safe. Teachers, doctors, and firefighters all earn money for doing their jobs.

People can also raise money for things they need or want. Students might have a bake sale to raise money for a school trip. Customers buy cookies and other sweets at the bake sale. Then the school uses the money from the bake sale to help pay for the trip.

People also raise money to help others. Students could have a car wash to raise money. Customers bring their cars to the car wash. They pay students to wash their cars. Then the money from the car wash could be used to buy food for the homeless.

There are many kinds of jobs. And there are many ways to make and raise money. Can you think of some more?

COMPREHENSION What are some jobs that people have in order to earn money? Which words help you understand the ways that people make and use money?



Scientists at Work

There are many kinds of scientists in the world today. They study many different things. Some scientists study outer space. Others study animals. Some scientists study oceans.

One thing most scientists have in common is that they like finding the answers to questions. They might ask themselves, "How exactly does this work?" or "Why does this happen?" They want to know the reasons, so they go searching for facts.

Searching for facts is called research. Scientists can do research by reading books. Or they can read newspaper and magazine articles. Research can also be done on the Internet, or by asking other scientists how they have tried to answer questions of their own.

A scientist will often make a prediction, or a guess, about what the answer to a question will be. Then the scientist will plan an experiment, or test, to learn if the prediction is correct. First, scientists begin by writing down the materials they will use for their test. Then they list the steps they will follow. The experiment will begin. The scientists take notes about what they see and what happens during the experiment. They may want to make a chart to show events that happen over time. Or, they may want to make a model of the subject they are testing. This model can help show what is happening to the subject on a much larger scale than our eyes can see.

Scientists do their experiments many times. They want to be sure that the same things happen every time they run the test. When they get the same results over and over, scientists can feel like they've gotten one step closer to the truth.

Scientists do much of their work in a laboratory, or lab. A lab has tools and equipment that scientists use to do experiments. A lab might have counters along the walls. Bottles of many shapes and sizes might fill some shelves. A lab might also have computers and machines you have never seen. But the scientist knows how to use them all.

COMPREHENSION Which words help you understand what scientists do? Why do scientists do experiments?

