

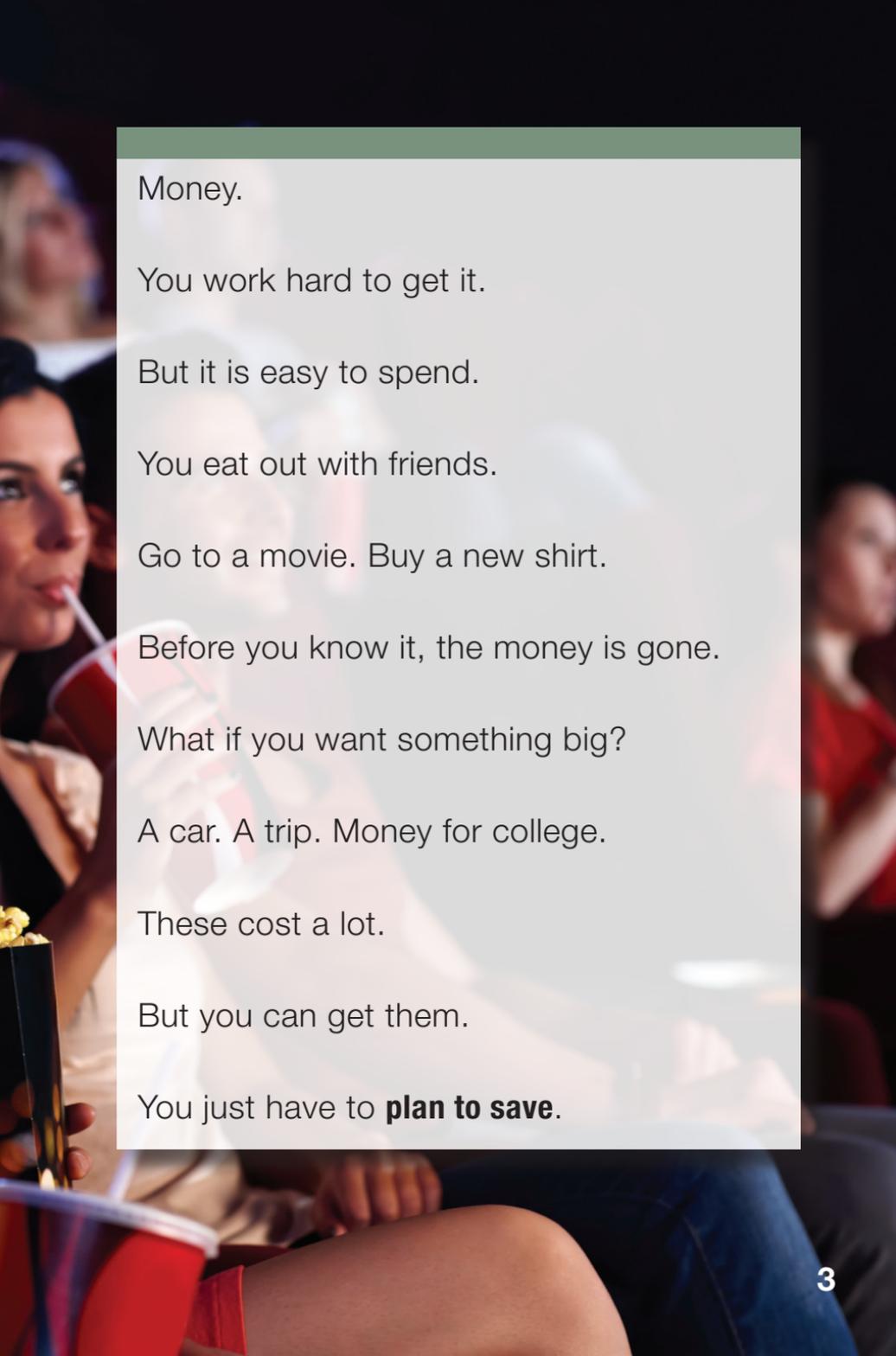
LIFESKILLS IN ACTION

**MONEY
SKILLS+**

**Planning
to Save**

SUSAN ROSE SIMMS



A woman in a red dress is sitting in a movie theater. She is holding a drink with a straw and a bucket of popcorn. The background is slightly blurred, showing other people in the theater.

Money.

You work hard to get it.

But it is easy to spend.

You eat out with friends.

Go to a movie. Buy a new shirt.

Before you know it, the money is gone.

What if you want something big?

A car. A trip. Money for college.

These cost a lot.

But you can get them.

You just have to **plan to save.**



How do you **save money**?

You set it aside. Don't spend it.

This seems easy. But it's not.

There is so much to buy.

Food. Clothes. School supplies.

And there are bills to pay.

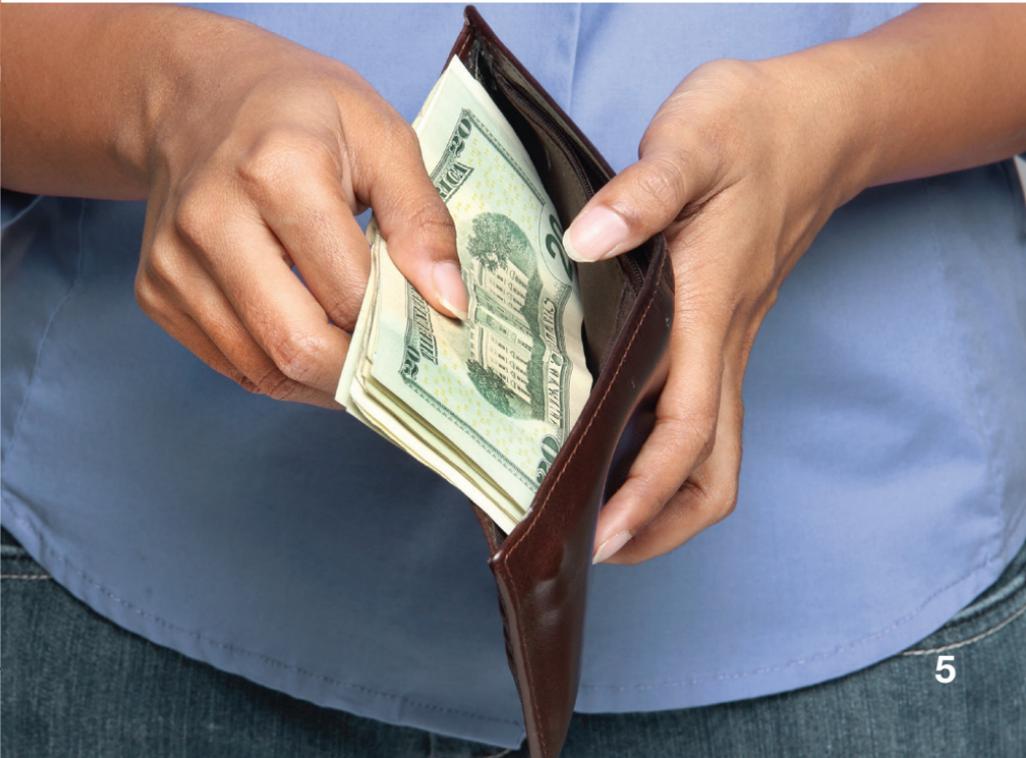
Many people live paycheck to paycheck.

They earn money each month.

But they spend every penny.

Some even spend more than they make.

They want to save. But they don't.





Not saving can lead to big trouble.

Times can get tough.

People can lose their jobs.

Things can happen they don't expect.

A car accident. A hospital stay.

No savings means no money for times like these.



People go into **debt**. They owe others money.

They may lose things they have.

Their car. Even their home.

It is hard to get back on track.

That is why you must plan. Plan to save.



Anyone can save.

JUST FOLLOW THESE STEPS:

- 1. Set a goal.**
- 2. Find money to save.**
- 3. Treat savings like a bill.**



Something
BIG

Susan Rose Simms

The bell rang. Students raced to class. Summer was over. A new year of high school had begun.

Zach and Zoe had economics first period. They were twins. But they were nothing alike.

“Good morning, class,” said Ms. Sands. “Let’s talk about your term project.”

Everyone was quiet. Zach sat in the front row. His eyes were on Ms. Sands. Zoe sat in back. She was daydreaming about her summer.

“For your project this term ...” Ms. Sands paused. Then she smiled. “You will each have \$500.”

Mouths fell open. “For real?” Eddie called out.

“Not real money,” said Ms. Sands. “But it will really count. This project is 40% of your grade. I want you to plan for something. Something big.”

“Like a car?” asked Felipe.

“Or a trip?” asked Maria.

“Yes,” said Ms. Sands. “Something that costs a lot. More than \$500. That’s the point. I will give you \$500. You need to turn it into more. Don’t just save it. Invest it.”

“How?” asked Zach.

“Each of you will open an account at Sands Bank. You will decide where to put your money. You can go low risk ...”

“What’s that?” Zach asked.

“That’s a savings account. Or a CD,” said Ms. Sands. “Some bonds are low risk too. Or try high risk. Invest in mutual funds and stocks.”

“When is it due?” asked Kate.

“At the end of the semester. We will make a chart. You will fill it out each week. It takes time to invest. To make money. So each week will count as a month.”

Hands shot up. But Zoe wasn't listening. She was still daydreaming.

“Hold your questions,” said Ms. Sands. “Go online. Do some research.”



Something **BIG**

SADDLEBACK
EDUCATIONAL PUBLISHING
www.sdlback.com

ISBN: 978-1-68021-013-2



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