

Sasha's Big Day

Note: There are questions you can ask as you read the story in order to engage the children and to keep them listening. Begin by reading aloud the story of Sasha's Big Day. Talk about what happened to Sasha and the consequences (possible responses are suggested throughout).



Sasha was so excited. It was his birthday and his Mum and Dad had promised him that when he turned 5 and started school, he would start to get pocket money every week so that he could buy the things that he wanted.

Well, the big day had come. He jumped out of bed and ran downstairs. In the kitchen, his Dad was preparing the breakfast for everyone. His Mum was having a lie in. On the table were 2 envelopes. The first contained Sasha's birthday card. 'Happy Birthday Sasha – you are now very grown up'. The second envelope had some writing on the front, 'Sasha's weekly pocket money'.

Sasha picked up the envelope. It felt quite heavy. He quickly opened it and out came two shiny new £1 coins. He was really excited and asked his Dad if they could go to the shops after breakfast – as it was Saturday. 'Hold your horses', said his Dad, this is the first time you have had money of your own – are you sure you want to spend it straight away?

Now ask the children...

- What do you think Sasha is going to say?
- Do you think he will want to spend it or save it for later?
- Maybe ask for a show of hands...

Then say: "Let's see what happens...."

Sasha thought for a minute and then said yes! He ate his breakfast, ran upstairs to get dressed, put the two coins in his pocket and then was ready to race out of the door.

Now ask the children...

- Is this a safe place for Sasha to put his pocket money?

Take a few answers and then say – "well, let's see if it is..."

Sasha and his Dad were half way up the street when they saw their neighbours who had just got a new puppy dog and they stopped to say hello. Sasha couldn't resist bending down to play with the gorgeous puppy. Then off they went on their way. Dad wanted to get a weekend newspaper to read and Sasha asked if he could look at the comics and toys in the newsagents too.

There were loads of comics and stuff to choose from but he decided that he would like something to read just like his Dad. 'Should he get Spiderman or Ben 10'? He decided on Spiderman this time.

Now ask the children...

- Do you read any comics? If so, which ones?
- Do you know how much they cost?

Sasha's Big Day

Sasha's Dad was at the counter paying for his newspaper and a magazine for his Mum. He took a plastic card out of his wallet and just tapped it on a machine on the counter and the man in the shop said 'thanks very much'.

Now ask the children...

- **Do you know what we call what Sasha's Dad just did?**

If they don't know you can tell them it is called tap&pay or contactless payment.

It is your money which is in the bank but you pay this way instead of carrying cash.

Sasha would be able to do this when he was older but for now he will need to look after his cash carefully.

Then move on by saying: "Let's see what Sasha has chosen to buy with his pocket money..."

Sasha took his comic to the counter and put his hand in his pocket to get out his £1 coins to pay.

Oh no! They weren't there. He tried his other trouser pocket and then his coat pocket.

Where had they gone! His Dad turned around to see what had happened and Sasha started to cry.

"Hey don't worry" his Dad said.

"I'll pay for this – I'm sure we'll find your pocket money".

"But it was my first pocket money and I've lost it... How did that happen?" Sasha cried.

Now ask the children...

- **Do you know what happened to Sasha's pocket money?**

They may say it fell out when he ran from the house or that it fell out when he was playing with the puppy.

Or someone stole it.

- **How did it make Sasha feel to lose his very first lot of pocket money?**

Possible answers:

- He felt upset, as this was his first pocket money.
- He felt silly because he had lost it and not taken care of it.
- He felt worried that his Mum and Dad would be cross with him for losing it.

- **How do you think his Mum and Dad felt?**

Possible answers:

- They were upset for Sasha that his big day had been spoiled.
- They were also feeling a bit responsible because they should have bought him a purse or wallet to keep it safe in.

Finally ask....

- **What do you think Sasha could have done to prevent losing his pocket money?**

- **What would they advise Sasha to do next time?**

Possible answers:

- He should have kept it in a wallet or a purse, or at least in a zip pocket instead of just his trouser pocket.
- He could get a bank card and pay using that when he is a bit older.
- He could pay using a phone.

Thank the children for listening and for their good advice to Sasha!