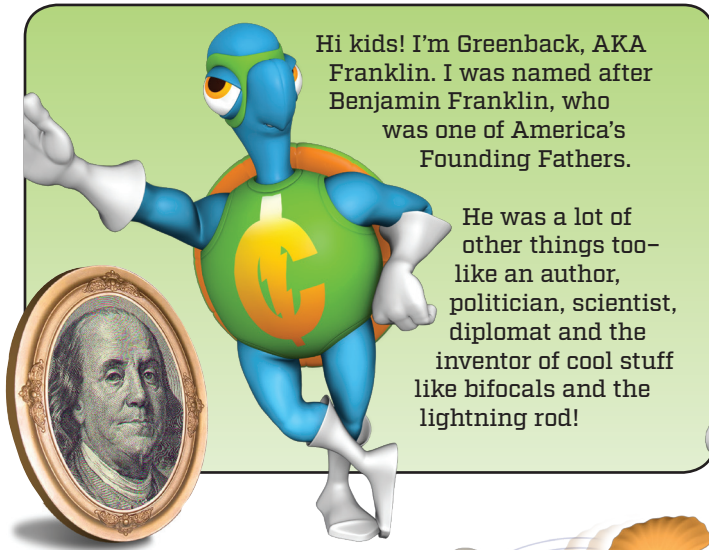


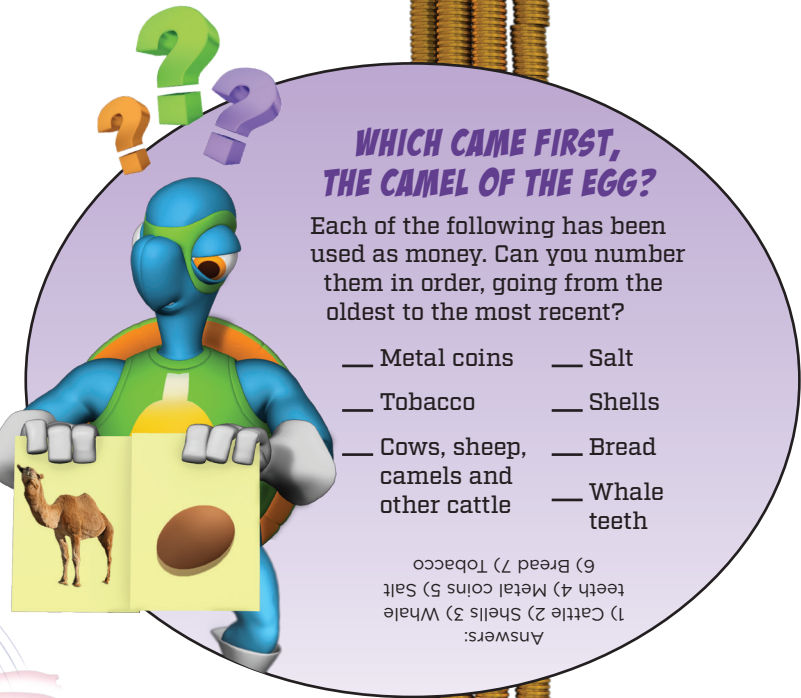
# BUYING BEFORE CASH

## A SHORT HISTORY OF MONEY



Hi kids! I'm Greenback, AKA Franklin. I was named after Benjamin Franklin, who was one of America's Founding Fathers.

He was a lot of other things too—like an author, politician, scientist, diplomat and the inventor of cool stuff like bifocals and the lightning rod!



### WHICH CAME FIRST, THE CAMEL OR THE EGG?

Each of the following has been used as money. Can you number them in order, going from the oldest to the most recent?

___ Metal coins	___ Salt
___ Tobacco	___ Shells
___ Cows, sheep, camels and other cattle	___ Bread
	___ Whale teeth

Answers: 1) Cattle 2) Shells 3) Whale teeth 4) Metal coins 5) Salt 6) Bread 7) Tobacco

Would you sell an old video game for a bag of feathers? For two dozen eggs? Perhaps for a handful of shells?

At one time or another, these things have all been used as legal tender – or money!


Or course, you would expect to be paid in dollars for your game, because that is the currency used in America.



American coins come in many different shapes and colors. So you can tell a nickel from a half-dollar without looking. Although paper bills are all the same size and color, they are worth different amounts, depending on the bill's denomination.

The larger the bill (meaning not its size, but how many dollars it represents), the greater its purchasing power. That's why we can buy twice as much stuff with a twenty dollar bill as we can with a ten.

If we didn't have currency in different denominations, your parents would need a wheelbarrow to buy a car using all dollar bills, or all pennies!

**Q.** What is money? And why should sellers give me anything in exchange for some wrinkled paper and metal disks?

**A.** Money is basically a token that represents a certain value, that was established by our government. Because the value is known, money can be easily used in exchange for goods and services. No matter where you live in America, your money is worth exactly the same as everyone else's.

**DID YOU KNOW?** THE DOLLAR'S NICKNAME "BUCK" COMES FROM BUCKSKINS AND DEERSKINS, WHICH WERE USED AS MONEY IN COLONIAL DAYS.