Money Matters

for People with Diverse Abilities

Workbook 1

What is a bank?

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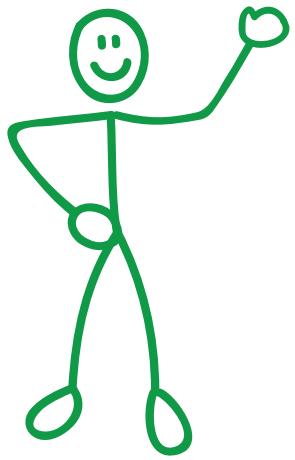
Welcome to *Money Matters!*



What will you learn?

In today's workshop, you will learn:

- What a bank is
- How to use a bank
- How to decide what bank meets your needs

Angie’s story

p.1

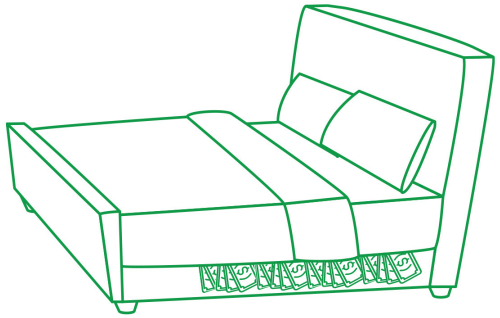
Angie lives in an apartment where she likes her housemates.

She keeps her cash under her mattress.

One day, her personal support worker tells Angie she shouldn’t keep her money there because someone might steal it.

Angie says, “But I trust my housemates!”

Keeping your money safe



When choosing a place to keep your money, you should consider a couple of things:

- how safe the money will be
- how easily you can get to the money

Let's talk about it

Angie feels sure her housemates won't steal her money. Does that mean it's okay to keep money under the mattress?

Choosing a bank

A **chequing account** is for money you will spend regularly using cheques or a debit card.

A **savings account** is for money you hold onto until you need it.

An **RDSP account** is to save up to meet special needs. For every $1 you save, the Canadian Government will add up to $3. RDSP is short for Registered Disability Savings Plan.

Banking terms challenge

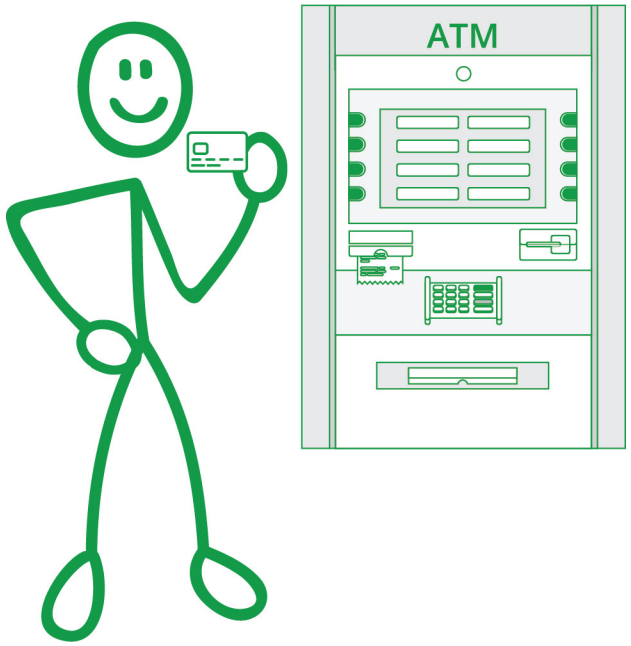
p. 4

Let’s look at some banking terms on page 4 of your workbook.

You can work with a partner to figure out which term goes with which definition, and check the Keywords at the end of your workbook for help.

Using ATMs

p. 6



ATM is short for Automated Teller Machine.

ATMs can make using a bank easier.

You can use an ATM to put money into the bank and take money out of the bank.

An ATM is often open when the bank is not.

Thinking about banks

Let's review some ways to use a bank:

- You can go there and talk with someone who works there
- You can use an Automated Teller Machine (ATM)
- You can check your bank account with a smartphone
- You can use a computer to check your bank account
- You can borrow money at a bank through loans or credit cards

Banking features

p. 8

How important are these banking features to you? On page 8 in your workbook, you can mark how important each feature is.

Look and feel

Does the building look nice and feel safe?

Access

Is it easy for you to get in and out?

Cost

Does the bank charge low or no fees on your account?

Banking features

Services

Are bank employees happy to answer your questions?

Rewards

Are there rewards like credit card points or other perks?

Location

Is the bank near your home or work?

Reputation

Do other people like this bank?

Technology

Does the bank offer online services and an ATM?

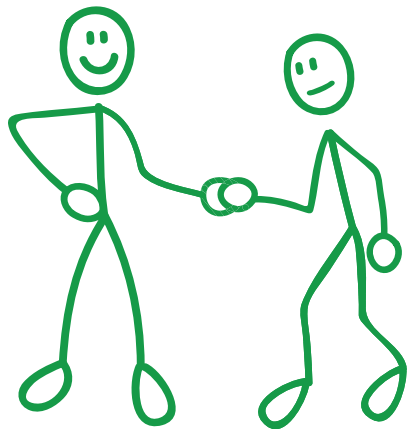
Let's talk about it

p. 9

Which features did you mark as very important? Why were they very important to you?

Talk about this in your group or write some of your thoughts in your workbook.

Visiting a bank



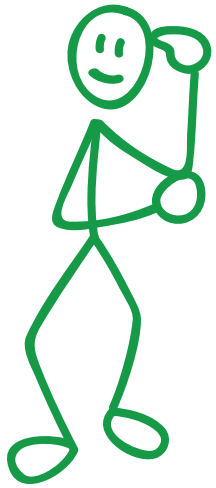
Here are three questions you might ask when you visit a bank:

- How much interest will I get from a savings account?
- How much are the fees for a chequing account?
- How do I open a new account?

Let's talk about it

What other questions do you want to ask at a bank?

What is a bank?

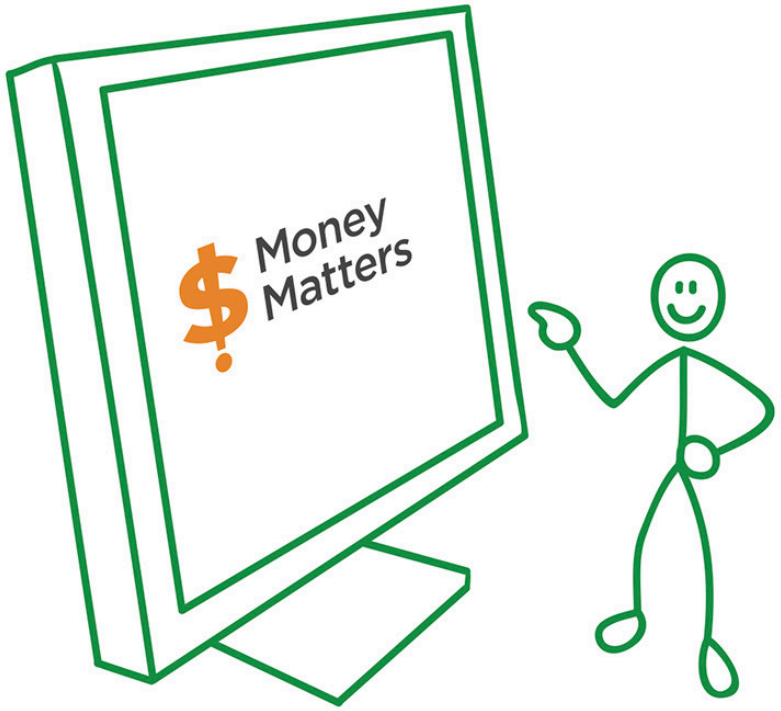


What we learned today

- A bank is a safe place to keep money
- How to use a bank
- What a bank can do for you
- How to choose a bank

Practice at home

Practice what you will do when you visit a bank. Think about the words you will say and the objects, like cheques and cards, that you will use.



Thank you for participating in *Money Matters for People with Diverse Abilities!*

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