

This book is part of the Inuutsiarniq Reading Series, developed by the Department of Health in Nunavut. The Inuutsiarniq Reading Series is a unique, Nunavut-developed literacy initiative that infuses Northern values of healthy living and self-care into a culturally appropriate reading program.

The Inuutsiarniq Reading Series was developed to support the reading level guidelines outlined in the Department of Education's Inuktut reading program, Uqalimaariuqsaniq. Uqalimaariuqsaniq is a sequential and progressive Inuktut reading program that supports students in their development as readers.

Healthy students are better learners and become healthy adults. For more information, visit www.gov.nu.ca/health and your local health centre.

Book details

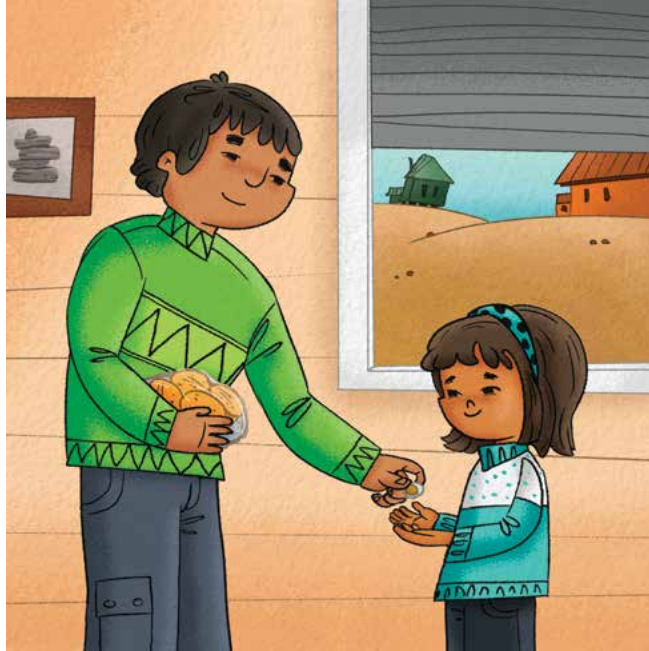
Level: 12

Text type: Fiction

Subjects/themes: Financial literacy, saving money

Key features: 42 pages of text, dialogue, numbers

Tina Wants a New Bike



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Tina ran to the toy aisle as soon as she went into the store with her *anaana*. Way up high on the top shelf was the most beautiful bike she had ever seen.

As Tina stared at the bike, she imagined herself riding it around town with all her friends. The streamers on the handlebars fluttered in the wind, and the purple frame sparkled in the sun.





Suddenly Tina was woken from her daydream by her anaana's voice.

"Come on, Tina. We have to go pay for our groceries," Anaana said.

"Anaana, can I get that bike?" Tina asked hopefully.

"Tina, that bike is \$200," Anaana said. "We don't have that much money for a bike."

"But, Anaana!" Tina groaned. She dragged her feet as she followed her anaana to the cashier.

Tina helped her anaana pile groceries from the cart onto the counter. As the cashier scanned the items from the cart, the total kept getting higher.

Beep!

\$12.57

Beep!

\$26.42

Beep!

\$58.89

Beep! Beep! Beep!

\$207.63

“Anaana, you said we didn’t have enough money for the bike I wanted,” Tina complained, “but those groceries cost more than the bike.”

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**\$12.57**

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\$26.42

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**\$58.89**

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\$207.63



Tina's anaana laughed. "Oh, *panik*, food is something that we need," she said. "Our whole family has to eat these groceries until the next payday. The bike is something that you want."

Tina scowled the whole way home. She decided to think of a way to convince her anaana that she needed the bike. As they walked, a few of Tina's friends biked past them.

"Hi, Tina!" they shouted.

“Anaana, look! All my friends have bikes,” Tina said. “I need a bike!”

“Needs are things we must have to live,” Anaana explained. “Things like food and water. Can you think of anything else?”

“Um,” Tina thought, as she climbed the front steps to their house. “Our house?”

“That’s right,” Anaana said. “We need a warm and safe place to live.”





“So we can only spend money on things we need?” Tina asked.

“Not quite,” Anaana said. “Think about your older brother’s video games. Does he need them?”

“Not really,” Tina replied.

“That’s right. He wants them,” Anaana said.

“So how do we get things that we want?” Tina asked, thinking of the bike at the store.

“Your brother got a part-time job as a hockey referee,” Anaana said. “He saved his money so he could buy the things he wanted. You could do that too!”

Tina had earned a little money from babysitting for her neighbours, but she always spent most of it right away. She liked to buy ice cream from the store for herself and her little sister.

Tina decided to check her piggy bank to see if she had anything in there. She spread all her money out on her bed and added it up.

“I only have \$11.65,” she said. “Yikes!”

If she was going to save \$200 for her bike, she was going to have to babysit a lot more. And stop buying ice cream!





Tina went back out to the kitchen. She decided to call her *aja* to see if she needed a babysitter.

“Hi, it’s Tina!” Tina said into the phone. “Do you need a babysitter tonight?”

“Not tonight,” her *aja* responded. “Why?”

“I’m trying to save money to buy a new bike,” Tina said.

“Hmm. I will call you the next time I need someone to watch the kids,” Aja said.

Tina frowned. She wanted to make money right away so she could use her bike all spring and summer!

Tina started looking around in the cupboard for a snack. She remembered that her anaana had bought blueberry muffin mix at the store.

“Anaana, can I make muffins?” Tina asked.

“*Atii*,” Anaana replied.

As Tina stirred and poured the mixture into the muffin pan, she had an idea. The mix would make 12 muffins, and she was only going to eat one. Maybe she could sell the rest!





Tina put on oven mitts and carefully placed the pan in the oven.

“*Niam*,” Anaana said, sniffing deeply. The smell of freshly baked muffins was starting to fill the house.

“I’m going to sell them to help me save money for that bike,” Tina said.

Anaana smiled. “That’s a great idea, panik,” she said. “They smell delicious!”

“Will you post about them online for me so people know they are for sale?” Tina asked.

“Of course,” Anaana said, grabbing her phone.

“How much are you going to charge for each muffin?” Anaana asked.

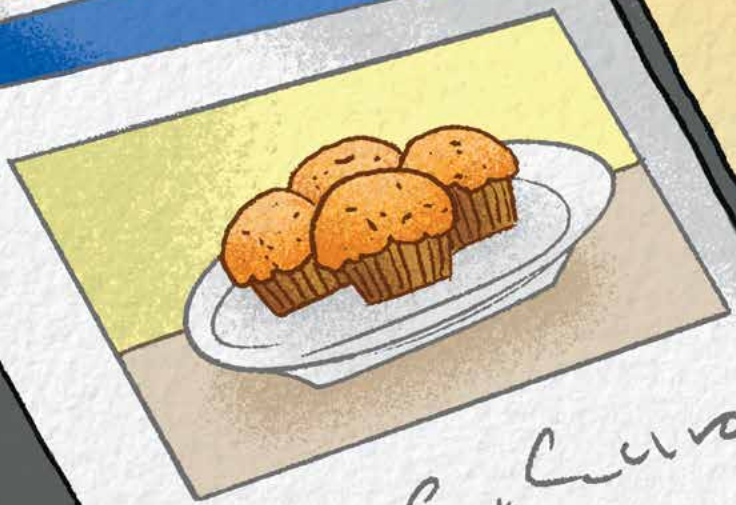
“Um, maybe a dollar?” Tina suggested.

“Great!” Anaana said. “That way you will make \$11. You can save some money for your bike and still have some left over to buy more muffin mix.” She used her phone to take a photo of the muffins and then typed out the post.

The post read: “Freshly baked blueberry muffins for sale at House 763! \$1 each. Get them while they are still warm!”



Vesta



Muffin recipe

1 cup
2 cups
1/2 cup
1/4 cup



It didn't take long before the first person came through the front door. It was her anaana's friend Jayco.

"I heard there are muffins for sale," Jayco said.
"I'll buy four. Three for the kids and one for me!"

Tina was so happy to make her first sale! She was four dollars closer to her goal.

"Let's make another batch!" Anaana said.

Tina and her anaana worked on making more muffins. They had to stop every few minutes when someone came in to buy muffins.

Soon all the muffins were sold.

Tina was so excited about saving money for her bike that she decided to go back to the store to look at it.

When she got to the toy aisle, Tina spotted a beautiful new doll on the shelf. It was only \$20! Tina had enough money to buy it.

But Tina remembered what her mom had told her about needs and wants. Tina knew if she bought the doll, it would be even longer before she could afford to buy her bike. She put the doll back and headed home.





As Tina was walking, she decided to stop in to see her aja Myna. Her aja was in the kitchen listening to the radio and washing dishes. Sometimes Tina did chores for her aunt to make some extra money.

“Hi, Aja!” Tina said. “Do you need me to do any chores around the house today?”

Aja Myna smiled. “Your uncle and cousins just flew home yesterday, so I have lots of laundry to do,” Aja Myna said.

Aja Myna showed Tina how to turn the washing machine on. Then Tina got to work folding the laundry that was in the dryer. Tina and her aja talked and laughed all afternoon as they did housework.

When everything was done, Aja Myna went to get her purse.

“It’s okay, Aja,” Tina said. “You don’t need to pay me. I really enjoyed helping you today!”





When Tina got home, her anaana was waiting for her.
“Your aja said her friend needs a babysitter,”
Anaana said, smiling.

“Awesome!” Tina said. “Can you drop me off?”

“Atii,” Anaana said.

In the car, Tina told her mom about her day. She told her about almost buying the doll and about helping her aja with her chores.

“Tina, I’m proud of you,” Anaana said. “You know what you value.”

Tina looked confused. “What does that mean?” she asked.

“When you value something, that means it’s important to you,” Anaana said. “You value your time with your aja more than money. That’s why you didn’t let her pay you for doing chores today.”

“I think I get it,” Tina said. “I value the bike more than a doll because I can use it to explore with my friends!”

Anaana raised her eyebrows and smiled.





That night, Tina had a great time babysitting two little boys. They played out for a while, and then she heated up some dinner that their anaana had left. After dinner, Tina read the boys a story and helped them get ready for bed.

When their anaana and *ataata* came home, they were so impressed with Tina.

“Our boys don’t like bedtime,” their anaana said. “I can’t believe you got them to bed! Would you like to babysit for us once a week?” She handed Tina two crisp 20 dollar bills.

“*Ii!*” Tina exclaimed.

Over the next few weeks, Tina saved up all the money she made from babysitting. She even kept baking and selling muffins online with her anaana's help.

Soon Tina had enough money to buy her new bike. Just as she was heading to the store, her anaana stopped her.

“Hang on, Tina,” she said. “Look at this!” She showed Tina her phone. Someone in town was selling a bike that looked exactly like the one Tina had been saving for. And it was only \$75!





“Do you want to go and check it out?” Anaana asked.

“Atii!” Tina said.

“Don’t forget this,” Anaana said, passing Tina her helmet. “Just in case!”

When they got to the house, the man selling the bike was standing outside.

“My daughter didn’t use it very often,” the man explained. “And now she’s too tall for it.”

Tina took the bike for a test drive around the driveway. It felt like it was brand new. She happily paid the man \$75 from her piggy bank.

Tina rode her bike slowly all the way home as her anaana walked beside her.

“What are you going to do with all the extra money you saved?” Anaana asked.

“I’m very happy with my new bike,” Tina said. “I don’t want or need anything!”

Then she thought for a moment.

“But maybe if I keep saving I can buy myself a skidoo next!” she said.

She and Anaana laughed the whole way home.





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