

World Economy

Pray that people in charge of the world's money use it fairly and that they remember the needs of the poor.



Have you ever tried to save your money for something you really wanted? It can take a long time to put all your spare change into a piggy bank until you finally have enough to buy something special.

The world economy is run kind of like a giant piggy bank. Governments collect money from taxes and other things, and many people decide how to spend that money. A lot of the money is used to pay workers. Some is used for schools, libraries, police, and fire departments. More money is needed to fix roads and build buildings.

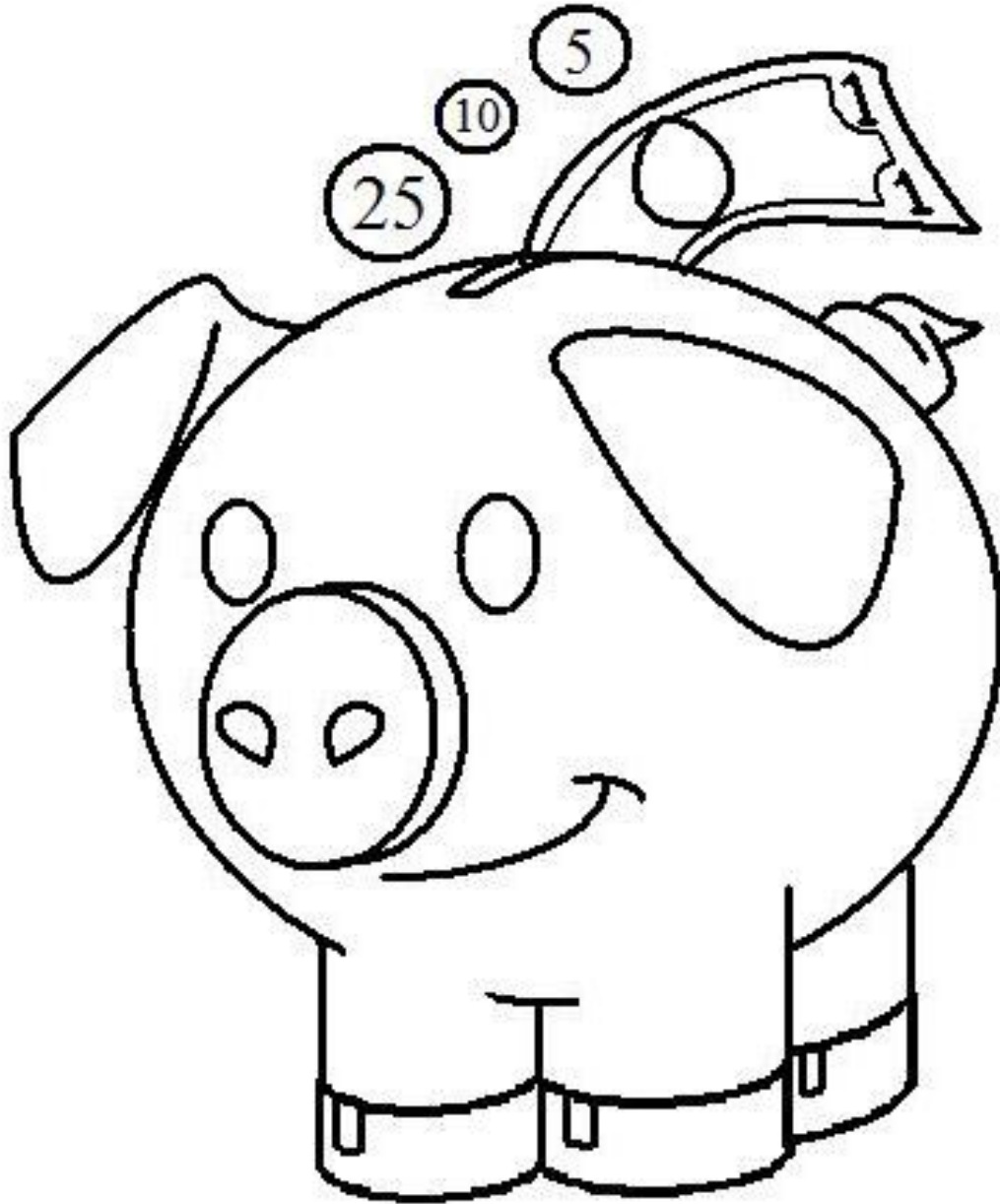
This month, the Pope asks us to pray for the world economy. He wants the people in charge of spending the world's money to remember poor people, who need food, homes, and doctors.

It's easy to be greedy with your money and to use it only to buy fun things. It's a lot harder to take some of your money and give it to people who don't have any. Maybe it'll take a little longer for you to save up for the things you want, but helping the poor is the right thing to do.

Think about it!

- Are you saving money for something you want?
- What are some basic things that people need to live?
- Can you take some of your extra money and use it to help the poor?

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These cute paper banks are a great way to learn how to divide your money between spending, saving, and giving to the poor.



What You'll Need:

3 cylindrical containers with plastic lids, different sizes
Construction paper
Stickers (optional)
Tape measure

Scissors
Craft glue
Black marker
Craft knife

Note: Adult help needed.

Step 1: Measure and cut a piece of paper to cover each of the containers. Wrap the paper around each container; glue in place. Decorate each with stripes and shapes of paper or stickers.

Step 2: With a black marker, write the words 'save,' 'spend,' and 'give' on individual strips of paper. Glue the 'spend' label to the largest container, 'save' to the middle size, and 'give' to the smallest. Or make your own decision about which label should go on which container!

Step 3: Ask a grown-up to carefully cut slots big enough for a quarter to fit through in the center of the plastic lids.

TIP: Potato chip canisters and oatmeal containers are the perfect sizes for this project.