GUIDE BOOK

FOLLOW the MONEY

Government, taxes and the people who keep watch

An 8 week unit study

Grades 3 to 5

How Follow the Money Works

An 8 week unit study for grades 3 to 5

The learner thinks like an investigator about government, taxes, who gets left out, and how corruption happens and gets caught.

Three books

Book	What it holds
Guide Book	Setup, every read-aloud in full, game steps, answers and sources. The Guide can lead from this book alone.
Learner Book	Stories, Look Closely pages, records and Case Notes
Cutout Printables	Cards, labels and Family Night sheets. Print one side only.

Why Do People Make Governments?

What happens when there are no rules, and who gets to make them?



Look Closely

Who is moving the grain, and who is keeping the records?

Exhibit A. Model of a Granary with Scribes, a wooden model (not a real building) from the tomb of Meketre at Thebes, about 1981 to 1975 BCE.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Rogers Fund and Edward S. Harkness Gift, 1920 (20.3.11). Public domain.

Order of Business

Day 1. The Island With No Rules

Day 2. The Pharaoh's Government

Family Night. Founding Night

Read the story aloud while the learner follows along. It is a made-up scenario.

> **BE IT READ ALOUD · THE ISLAND WITH NO RULES**
>
> Imagine a storm sinks your ship. You and nine other people wash up on a small island. Nobody is in charge. There is one freshwater spring, one grove of coconut trees and a lot of sand.
>
> On the first day, everyone runs to the spring at once, and the water turns to mud. On the second day, the strongest person grabs most of the coconuts. On the third day, two people start yelling over the best sleeping spot, and nobody knows how to settle it.
>
> Some problems are small enough for one person to fix. Others, like keeping the spring clean or sharing the coconuts fairly, can only be fixed if the whole group agrees on a plan. A plan everyone agrees to follow is a rule. When a government makes a rule everyone must follow, it is called a law.

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Vocab Box

Use this page when you need a word's meaning.

Word	What it means	Example
ration	A share of food or grain supplied as pay	Each tomb worker received a grain ration.
strike	When workers stop work to press a demand	The workers went on strike for their grain.
protest	An action or message that expresses an objection	A protest sign
investigate	To look for and examine evidence	Officials investigated the tomb robberies.
evidence	Information used to check a claim	A written record can be evidence.
alleged	Claimed but not established	An alleged robber is suspected, not proven guilty.

Mega Corp Offer and Receipts

CUT APART Cut on the dashed lines. Keep spare Receipts for Weeks 7 and 8.

MEGA CORP OFFER · FAMILY NIGHT 6

"Account B will pay for tonight's $1 treat if it pays no town tax in Weeks 7 and 8."

Receipt

TREASURY

Week _____ Amount _____

Paid for _____

Approved by

☐ a vote ☐ a Rule Card

Treasurer _____

Receipt

TREASURY

Week _____ Amount _____

Paid for _____

Approved by

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