

Background and How to Use “My Grandchildren’s Money Tree”

A version of this little story was told to me by my aunt and uncle when I was small so they could create a Money Tree in their backyard whenever I visited. Depending upon how good I had been prior to the visit, the Money Tree contained 1-5 one dollar bills attached to the leaves of one of their backyard trees. It was very exciting for me to recite a magical rhyme contained in the story to create the Money Tree and then go into the backyard to look for the dollar bill leaves. I must admit it made me want to visit whenever I could and it started each visit with a fun event!

I wrote the story down and embellished it just a little, and I’ve used it whenever my grandchildren come to visit. To use, all you have to do is customize the rhyme by removing the names “Emily and Nicole” and put in your own grandchildren’s names (of course, replace plural words to singular forms if you have one grandchild).

After reading the complete story the first time it’s used, we recite just the rhyme thereafter during subsequent visits since it’s really the rhyme that magically creates the Money Tree.

It takes just a few minutes to prepare for a visit as long as you have the Money Tree story and magical rhyme! Here are the mechanics - I attach one dollar bills to several leaves on a particular tree in the backyard just before my grandchildren’s arrival and presto, a money tree is born! You can attach the dollars in a variety of ways but here’s what I do – I roll a single dollar bill in a tight roll and attach it above a leaf (if I want it discovered quickly) with a two inch piece of green Velcro (marketed for gardens). If I don’t want the dollar bill discovered quickly, I attach it to the underside of a leaf. A mix of bills above and below leaves works best and that’s it!

Please let us know how it works for you and your grandchildren!

Take care and my

Best Regards,

T. A. Kuepper