The Go-Around Dollar

The book was found

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Every dollar travels from person to person in a different way. Matt finds a dollar on his way home from school and uses it to buy shoelaces from Eric. Eric spends the dollar on bubble gum at the corner store. Jennifer, who happens to be the next customer, receives the dollar as part of her change. A dollar bill is something we all see and use every day of our lives. But do we know how it's made? The meaning of the symbols that are shown on the front and back of the dollar? How long the average dollar stays in circulation? In this fascinating and informative book, Barbara Johnston Adams weaves together a fictional narrative about the travels of a single dollar with facts and anecdotes that are sure to delight young readers.
son zoning off while I was reading it to him. It would be better if the "money facts " on every page were separated better. Its an okay purchase.

At the time of this review, this book is listed for ages 9-12 but as a picture book, I would recommend it for age 4 up to 9. The facts introduced are intriguing enough for older ages, even adults, but as a picture book, it is very hard to imagine a twelve year old actually reading it. Children are often surprised to hear that when they deposit a dollar bill to a bank, they will never get that exact same dollar bill back. While this book does not address bank deposits, it certainly demonstrates the flow of money through society. The story is nicely woven with facts that children will find interesting, such as how long a dollar bill lasts, how many are lost in a day, and how many make a pound. Do you know what a "star" bill is? I didn't. As a mom, I especially liked the humor of the forgotten dollar bill making it through the wash! I was also pleased to see "spending" is addressed when one character makes a list of what to buy with the dollar. We can never start too early to teach good money habits. This is an excellent book mixing money facts with fiction to hold children's interest.

I use this story to teach my 4th graders where our money circulates. The students are amazed to learn that it can actually go so many places and how it returns to the bank time and time again.

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