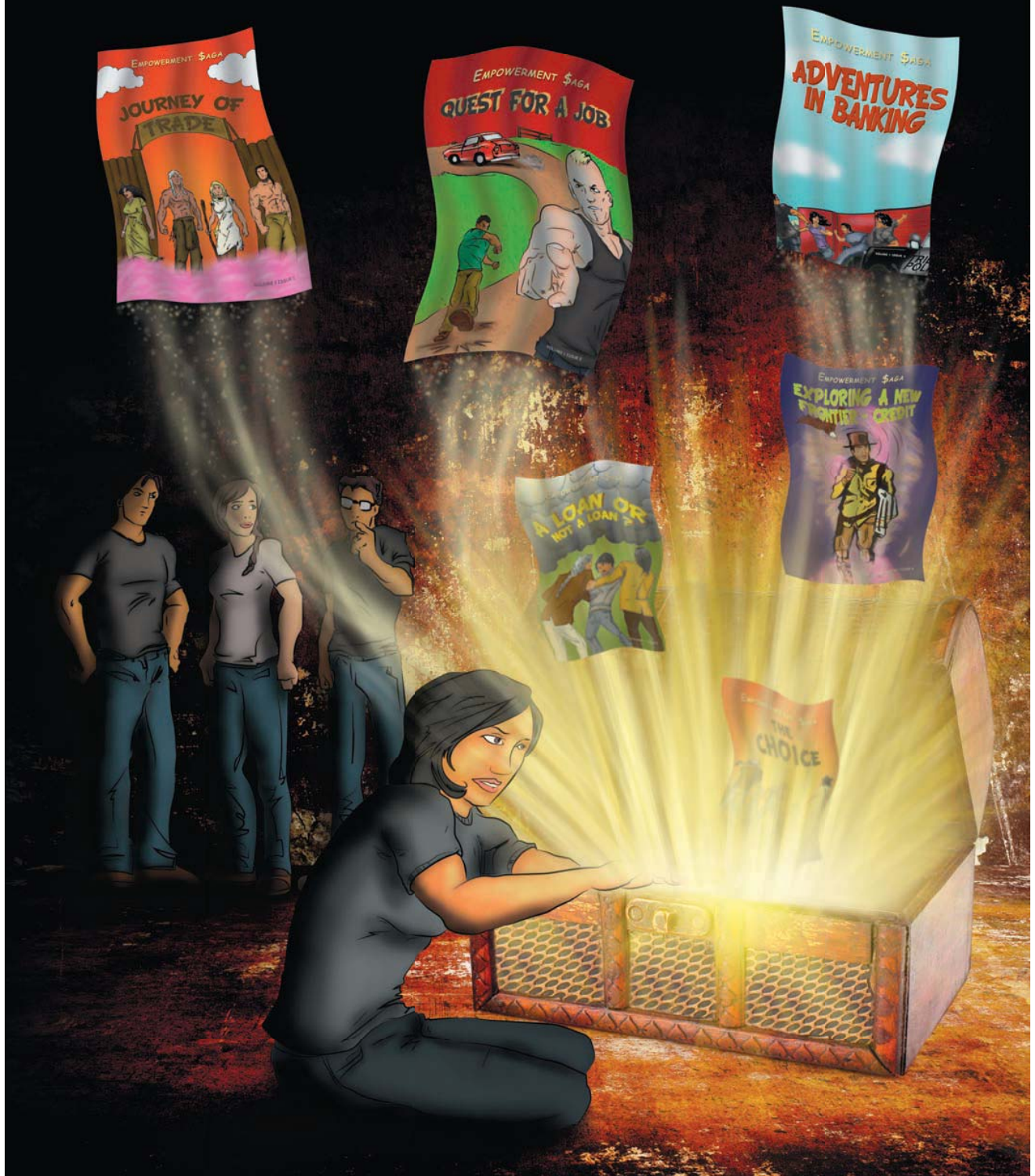


# EMPOWERMENT \$AGA COLORING BOOK



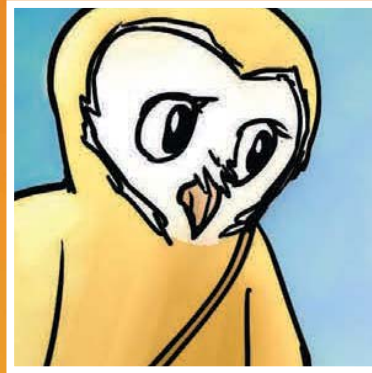
The story begins with shape-shifters, four birds - Eagle, Raven, Hawk, and Owl - perched on telephone lines on the outskirts of the Native community.

They are spiritual helpers to a group of teens - Shining Star, Theresa, Ranger, and Jay. These young teens learn financial resources as they embark on many adventures, and encounter intrigue in the process!



### EAGLE

Eagle is an ancient spirit: all knowing, all seeing. As a human, he transforms into a strong leader who guides others through their journeys. He wears a medicine bag



### OWL

Owl is a wise one, and beyond. As a human, she conveys wisdom to others about their life situations. Owl always carries her fringed purse.



### RAVEN

Raven is the one who brings balance; all-encompassing of all the attributes of life. In human form, she evokes reasonable consideration of all facts. Raven wears a turquoise ring.



### HAWK

Hawk is a hunter and a messenger, a patient observer with a quirky sense of humor. In human form, he is always physically fit and active. He constantly wears his bead and bone choker.





**A sleepy reservation town ready to recognize it's value.**



**Eagle is an ancient spirit — a leader who is all knowing and all seeing.**



**Owl is a wise one, and beyond.**



**Raven is the one who brings balance —  
all encompassing of all attributes of life.**



**Hawk is a hunter and a messenger — a patient observer with a funny sense of humor.**



**Make a goal to buy something you want.**





**Save for your goal.**



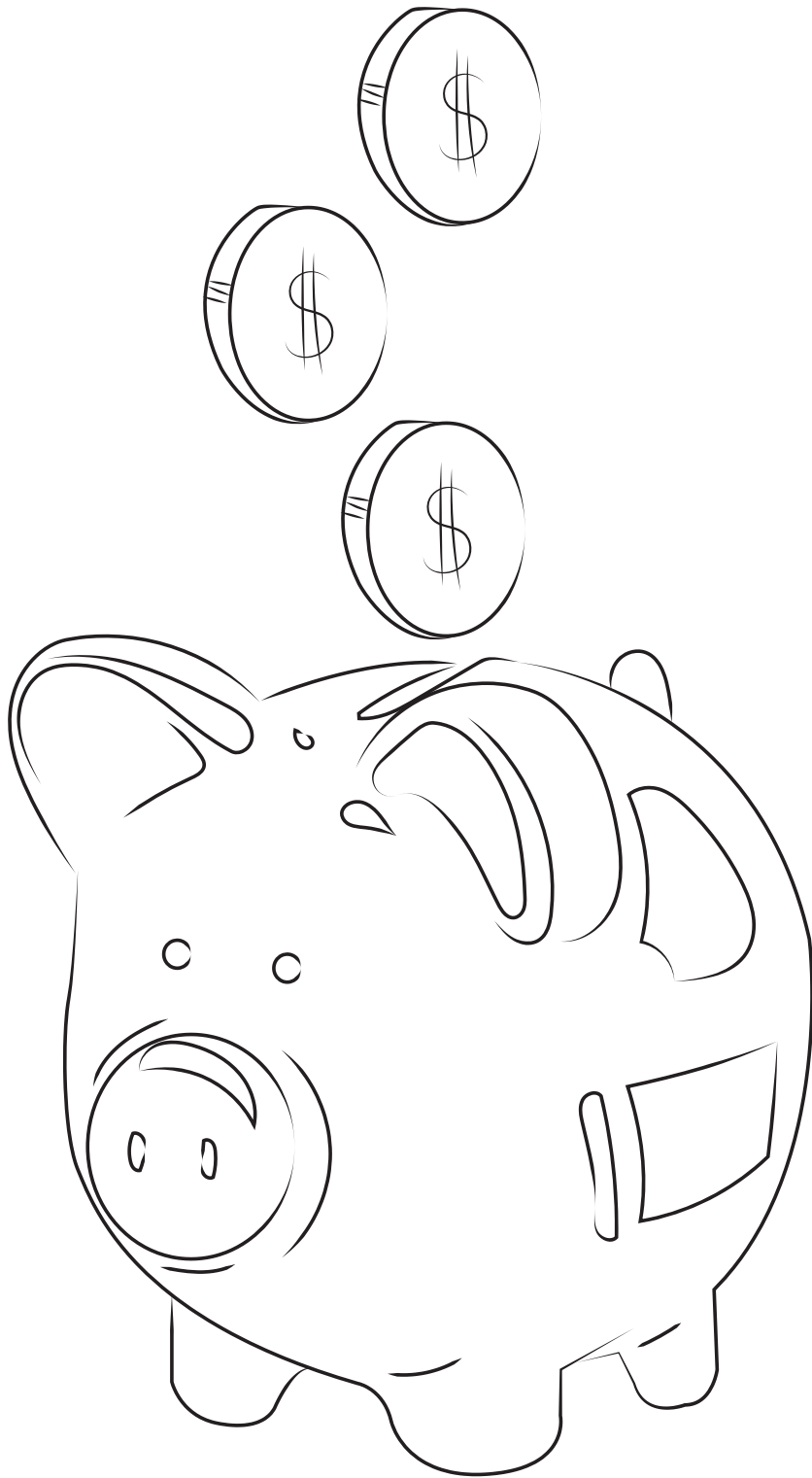
**Get help from family, friends, and others to  
learn how to make your goal come true.**



**Enjoy reaching your goal;  
and then set another.**

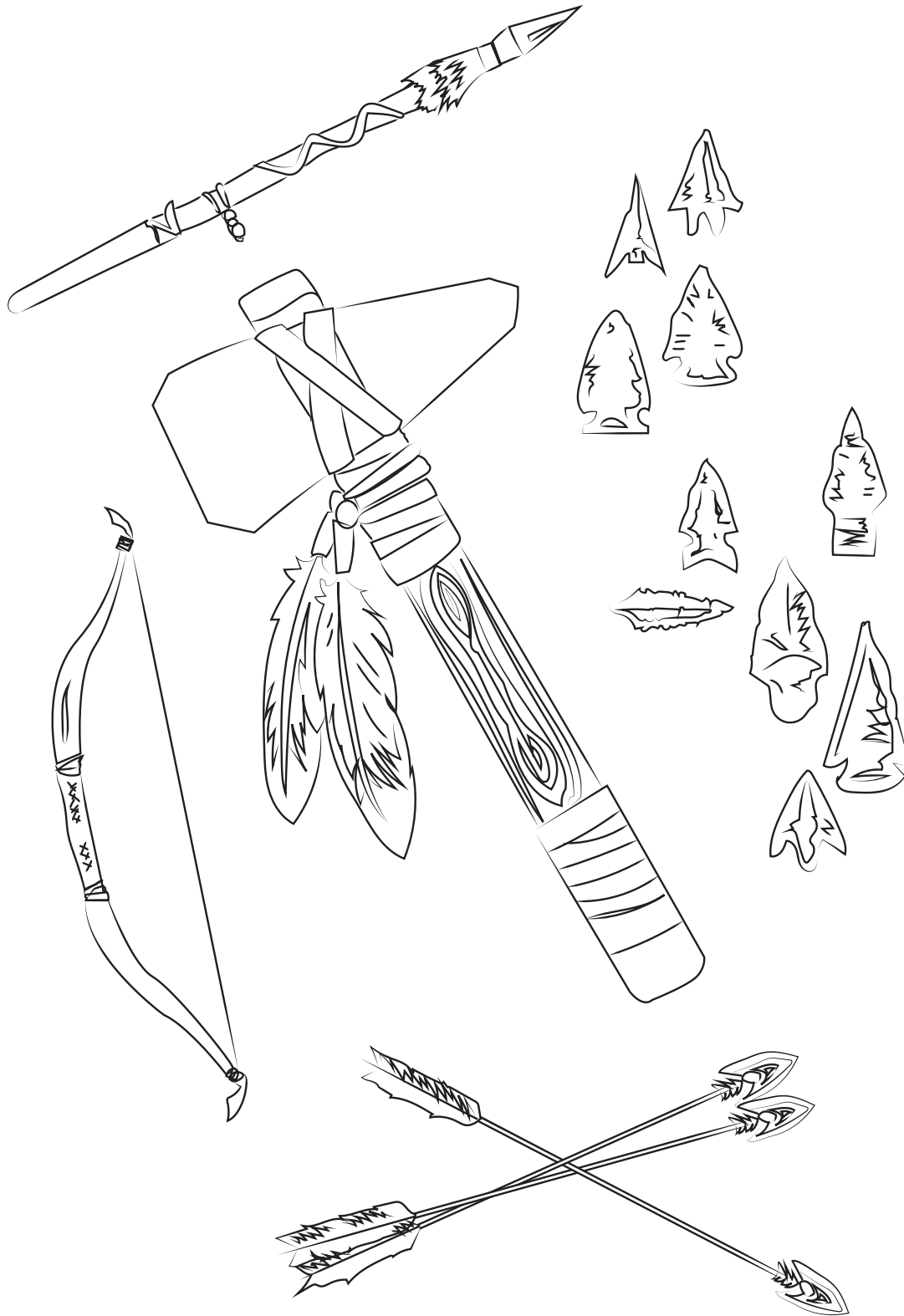


**The Trapper helped the Young Hunter  
learn about saving.**

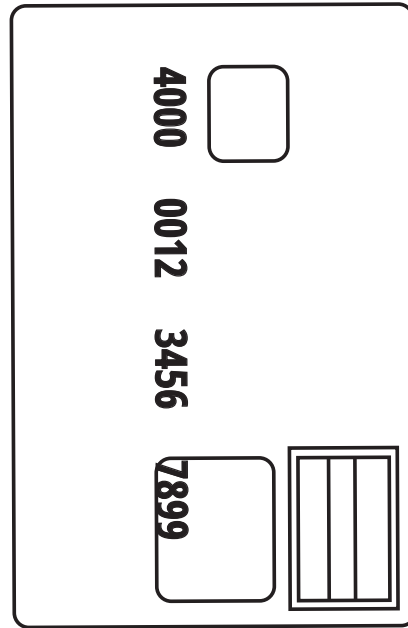
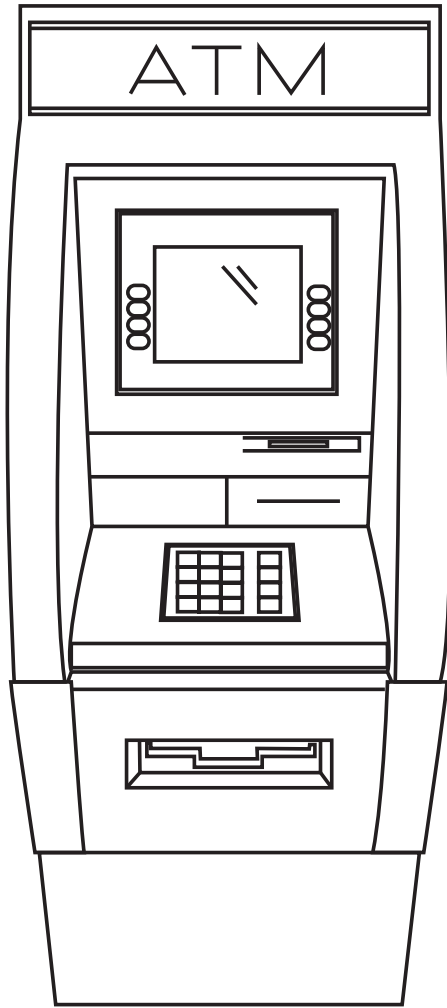


**Even small savings add up!**





**Ancestors used tools like these  
to provide for family needs.**

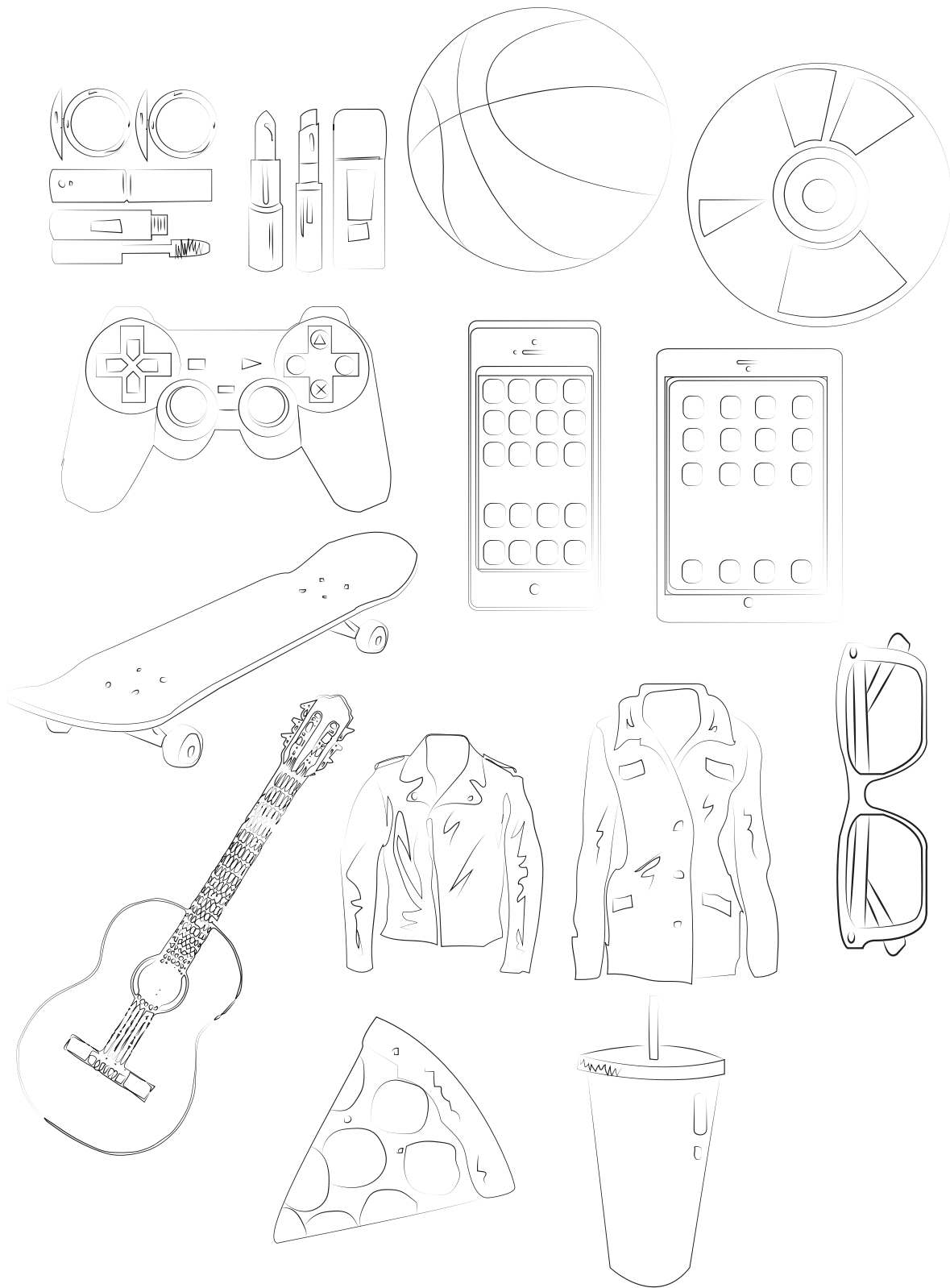


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PAY TO THE ORDER OF _____	\$ <input type="text"/>
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FOR _____	
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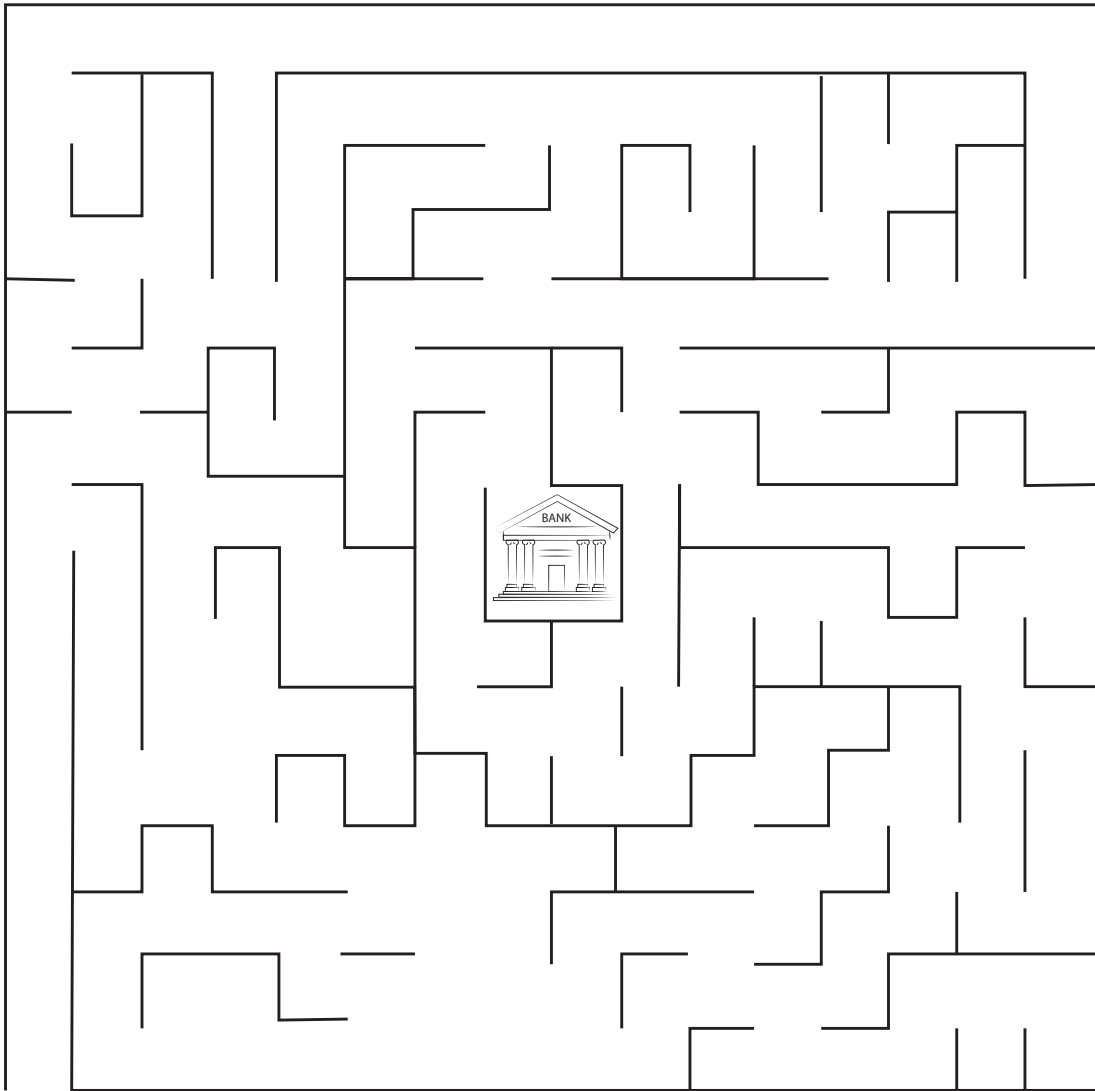
Today there are other tools  
to do the same thing.



**In the past, our ancestors bought things  
at trading posts.**



**Today, we buy all kinds of things at stores.**



**Take the money at the start of the maze and  
color the path to get it to the bank.**





## Rose Red Elk (Sioux/Assiniboine)

Author of the Empowerment \$aga series of stories, and a winner of the 2014 Native American Music Awards, Rose is an international performing arts entertainer, also known by her Native American traditional and stage name, Red Feather Woman. An accomplished award winning recording artist, storyteller, singer, songwriter and author from the Fort Peck Reservation in Poplar, Montana, and an enrolled member of the Sioux/Assiniboine Tribes, Rose continues to discover the realms of spiritual awareness through the gift of storytelling, in written, oral and musical forms. Her fiction is themed with traditional values, blended with ancient stories from the past.

[www.redfeatherwoman.com](http://www.redfeatherwoman.com)

## Matthew Barkhausen

Matthew worked with the Native American and woman owned small business Circuit Media as an illustrator for the Empowerment \$aga series of stories. His artwork for this and other projects focuses on Native American culture. He has provided artwork to the Rocky Mountain Indian Chamber of Commerce and other Native American organizations. Matthew is of Cherokee and Tuscarora heritage. He has a B.A. in interactive media design from the Art Institute of Colorado.



[www.matthewbarkhausen.com](http://www.matthewbarkhausen.com)

Other Circuit Media illustrators who contributed greatly to the project were **Jon Hormachea**, creative design director, **Abby McMillen**, illustrator, and **Ali Bibbo**, graphic designer.



## Joseph Arnold

Working as a freelancer for a Denver based company, Joe created the original images of the characters. His artwork reflects his philosophy that dedication and practice are critical aspects of being an artist. After serving five years active duty with the U.S. Army 82nd Airborne and three years with the Colorado National Guard, Joe completed his education in June 2102 at The Art Institute of Colorado with a bachelor's degree in media arts and animation. He has worked for Disney Online Studios Boulder and 12-6 Studios in Denver.

**Original concept by J.P. Barham**

## Creating the Empowerment \$aga

The Empowerment \$aga is a series of stories to engage youth 14-18 years of age in developing basic financial skills so they will learn how to build and preserve their own financial wealth. These stories, offered in colorful comic-style graphics, are reservation-based in order to bring "home" to Native youth the message of handling their finances from an early age.

Recognizing the importance of financial knowledge to IIM account holders, the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians (OST) has been working for years to bring financial skills training to account holders of all ages. OST has partnered with other government agencies, Native community development financial institutions, Native organizations, and others to offer culturally sensitive financial education.

The Empowerment \$aga is another opportunity to expand financial skills training in Indian Country by encouraging youth-to-youth and multi-generational discussions about this topic. The stories highlight the value of knowing these financial skills, and illustrate the challenging consequences when this knowledge is not known or used properly.

The characters and stories of the Empowerment \$aga series are wholly-owned by the government of the United States and cannot be used without the written consent of the government. For more information regarding financial education opportunities in Indian Country, please contact:

### OST's Director of Financial Education

brian\_ross@ost.doi.gov

or

### Trust Beneficiary Call Center

1-888-678-6836

To contact your Fiduciary Trust Officer please visit:

<http://www.doi.gov/ost/fto>



## U.S Department of the Interior

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