



The Gift

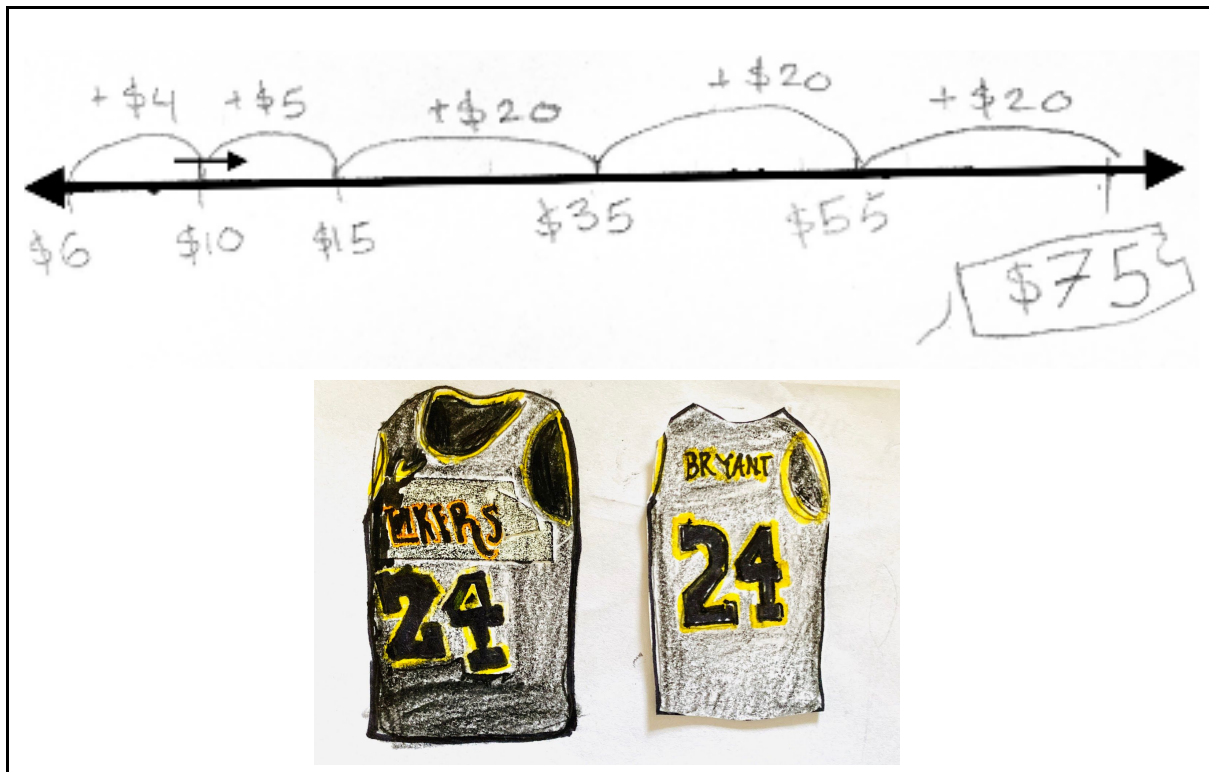
Written and illustrated
by Ellie Mae Chen



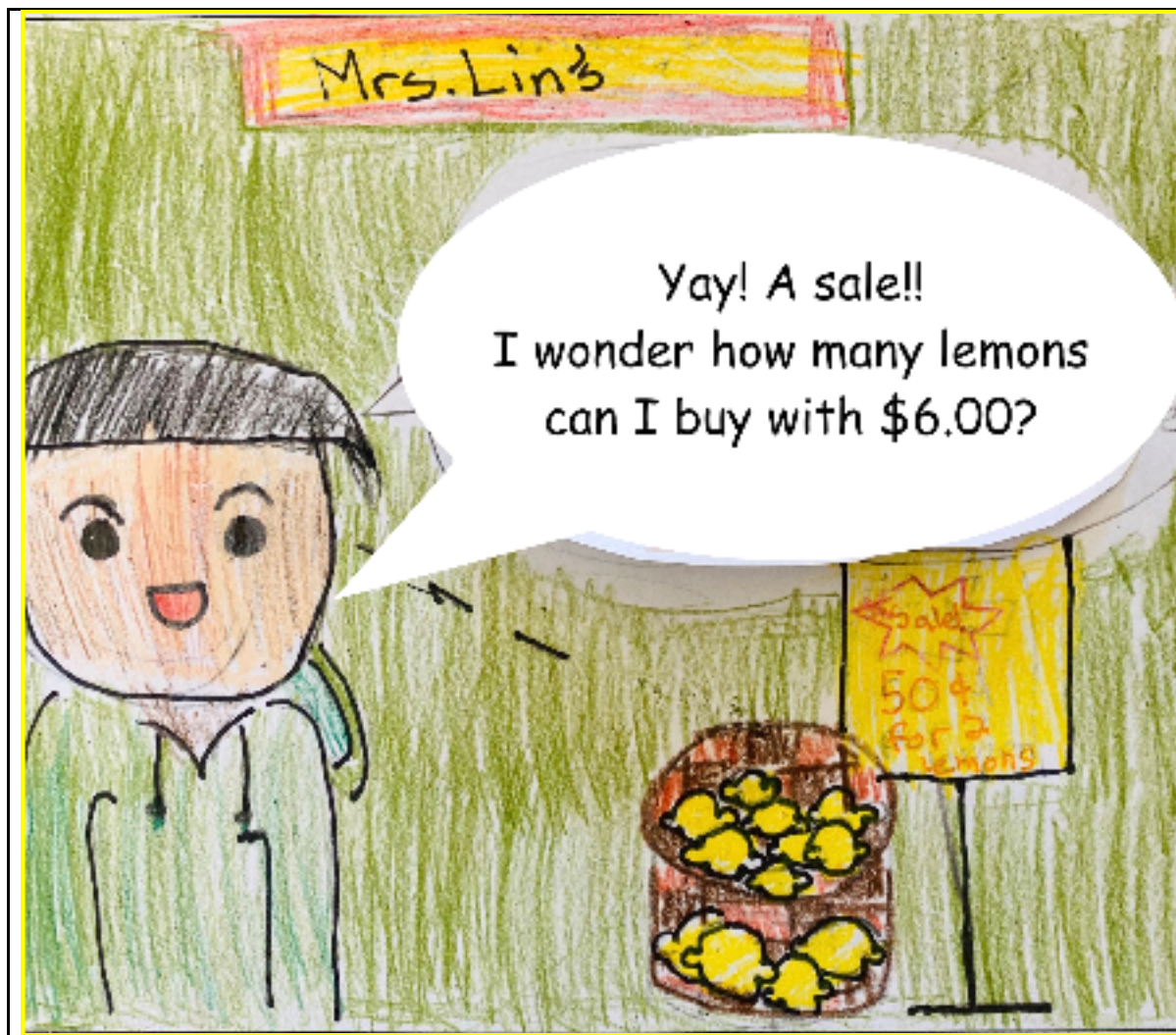
Deven Lin woke up in a panic! It was ten days before...



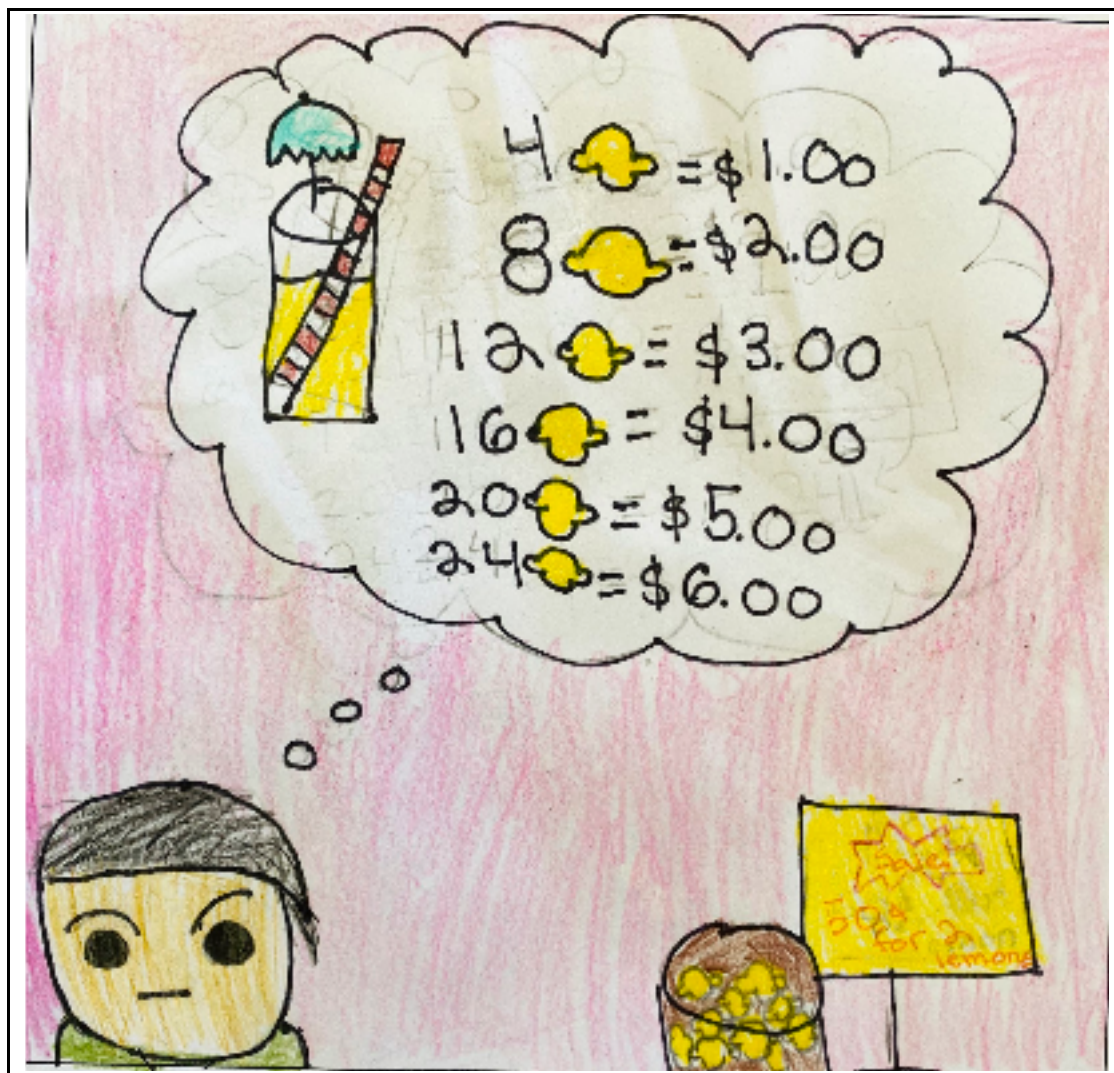
... his dad's birthday. Here's the real problem. He didn't have a gift AND Deven had an empty piggy bank with only \$6 in his pocket.



Deven’s dad, an avid Kobe fan, has always yearned to own a Kobe jersey. The new Mamba Edition, costing a hefty \$75, would be the perfect gift. “Hmmm,” Deven wondered, “I have \$6, how much more do I need to get to \$75? Okay, let’s count up! \$6 plus \$4 is 10\$ and \$5 more would make \$15. If I add \$20 to \$15, I’ll have \$35, then \$20 more is \$55, and \$20 more would make \$75. From \$6 to \$75, I need \$69 more dollars!”

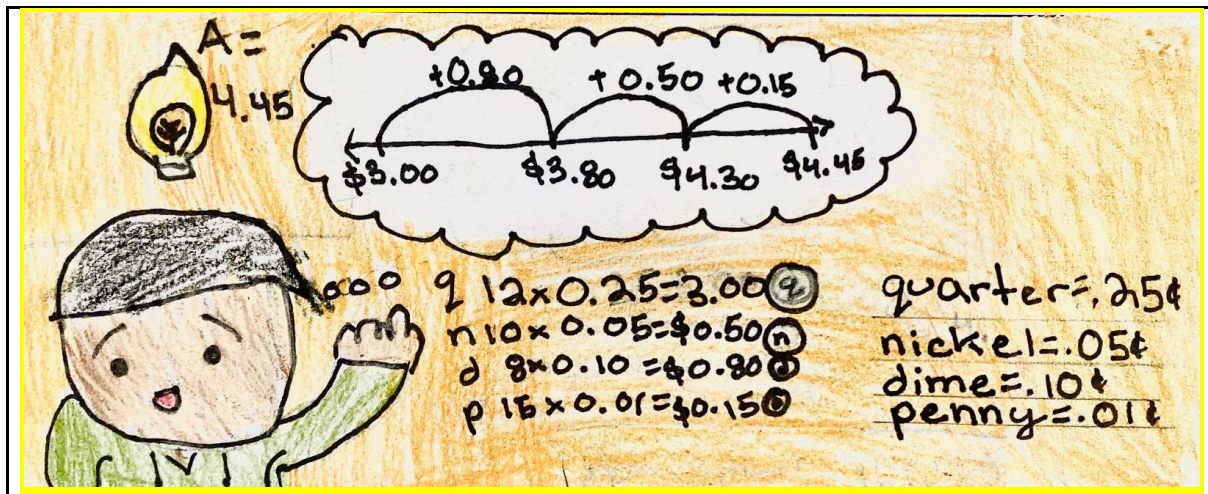


Deven is a super talented lemonologist (aka lemonade making scientist). He rushes to Mrs. Lin's grocery store to buy the ingredients. Just his luck, lemons are on sale today 50¢ for 2. Deven asked out loud to himself, "Hmmm, I have \$6. How many lemons can I purchase?"



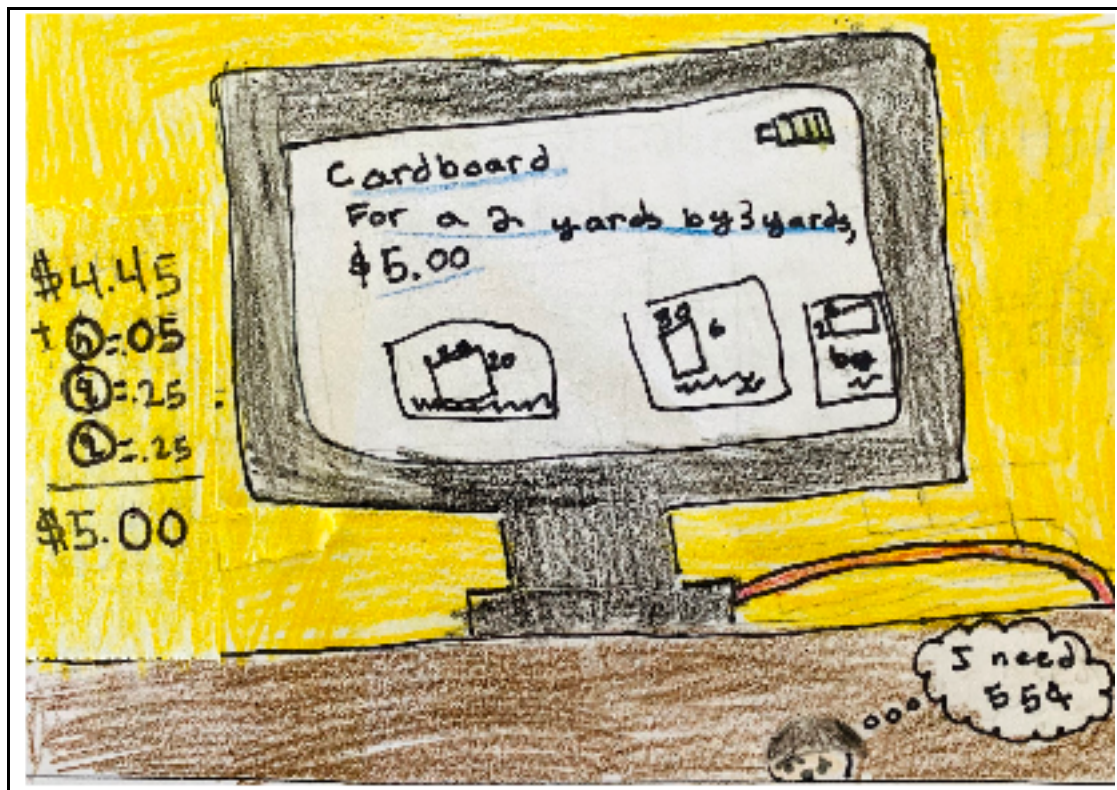
Deven thinks aloud and says, “Each lemon is 25¢ or a fourth of a dollar. This means 4 lemons would cost one dollar, 8 lemons cost \$2, 12 for \$3, 16 for \$4, 20 for \$5, and 24 for \$6.” Deven picks 24 of the largest lemons available and pays Mrs. Lin then rushes home to make the lemonade, mixing the lemon juice with sugar and water until it has the perfect taste.

As he thought of lemonade, it then sparked an idea. “I can make a lemonade stand from cardboard!” Deven shouted with excitement. Digging through the garage, Deven found only TWO pieces of cardboard. “Oh, avocados!” Deven exclaimed. I need to find money to buy more cardboard!”



Deven ran to the living room to find loose change under the crevices of the couch. Digging, digging, digging - he found 12 quarters, 8 dimes, 10 nickels, and 15 pennies! “Wait! How much is that?” Deven wondered. “12 quarters is \$3.00, and 8 dimes is 80¢ so combined that makes \$3.80. How about the nickels and pennies? Ten nickels is 50¢, and 15 pennies is 15¢. All together, I have \$4.45!”

He typed up on Google, “How much is cardboard?” “For a cardboard with the dimensions of 2 yards by 3 yards, it would cost \$5.00”

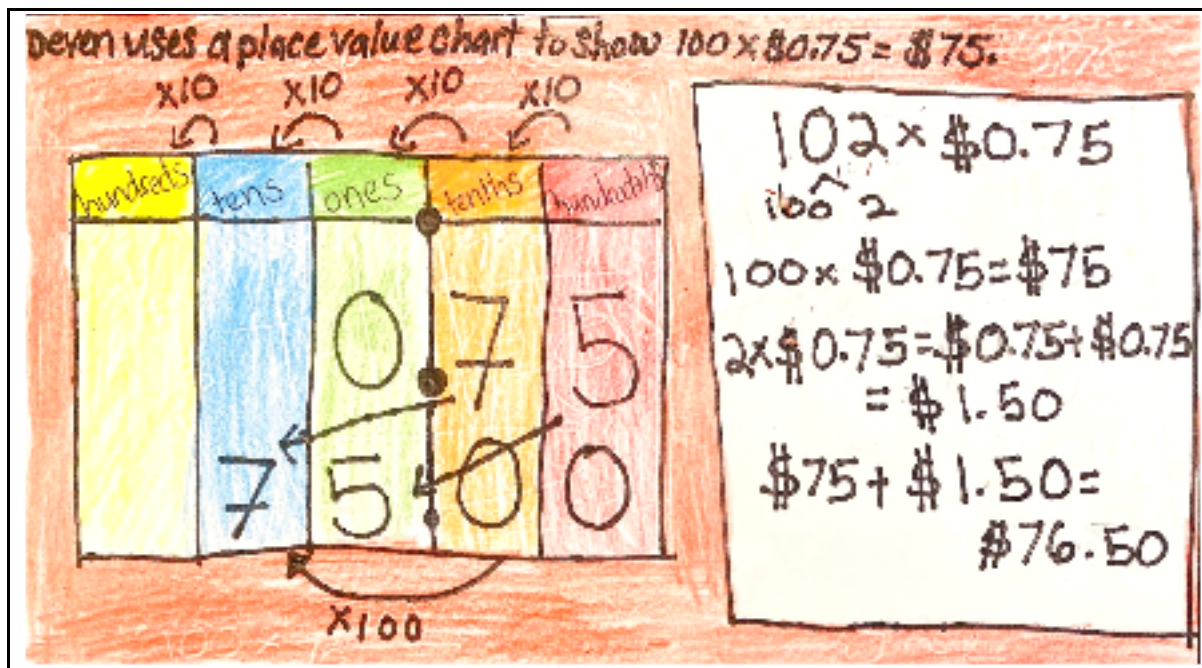


Deven looked at the computer with his eyes open and his chin hit the ground. “What!!” Deven thought. “I don’t have enough money! How much more do I need?” He took deep breaths until he calmed down, “Maybe I can find change on the ground along the way to Mr. Miko’s Hardware Store?”

As Deven walked, he kept his eyes peeled for shiny coins - in the bushes, along the sidewalk, and the sidewalk cracks.
NOTHING!



Then, his eyes spot a soda vending machine, and he runs over to peer under the machine AND finds 3 gleaming circles- 3 quarters! Now, he has \$5.20, enough to buy the cardboard! And with extra change left over!!



After buying the cardboard from Mr. Miko, he went home and built and set up the lemonade stand! Deven sold each cup for .75 cents. Everyone loved the lemonade and bought more until nightfall. By nightfall, Deven had sold 102 cups of lemonade. He did the math on a piece of paper. Deven uses a place value chart to show $100 \times 75\text{¢}$ makes $\$75$ knowing each place is 10 more than the place to its right. The remaining 2 cups $2 \times 75\text{¢}$ is $\$1.50$.

He raised $\$76.50$! Deven has enough!

On the day of his dad's birthday, Deven and the whole family were excited! When his dad arrived in the kitchen, he noticed there was a present from every one in the family. His hand reached out to the present shaped like a rectangular prism - the gift box with the jersey inside. Deven's dad with shaking hands unboxed and pulled out the black jersey with golden lettering that said "Bryant " and number 24. "Wow! This is the best gift ever! What a perfect way for me to remember Kobe Bryant and how he inspires me!" Deven's dad exclaimed as he quickly put on the jersey and looked at Deven, smiling widely. The small gesture meant the world to Deven.

Deven realized then, that math is everywhere.



BLURB

It was 10 days before Deven's dad's birthday and he only had \$6.00. Deven had the perfect gift for his dad, a \$75.00 Mamba Edition Kobe Bryant jersey. How on earth will he get all that money? In this book, Deven uses his creativity and math skills to come up with a solution.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Ellie Mae Chen is a 9 year old Chinese American in third grade at Jack L. Weaver Elementary School. This book is inspired by Ellie's love of math and basketball and how math is used in real life. Ellie is not just Chinese American but is also gender fluid.