

Lunch Money

By Andrew Clements

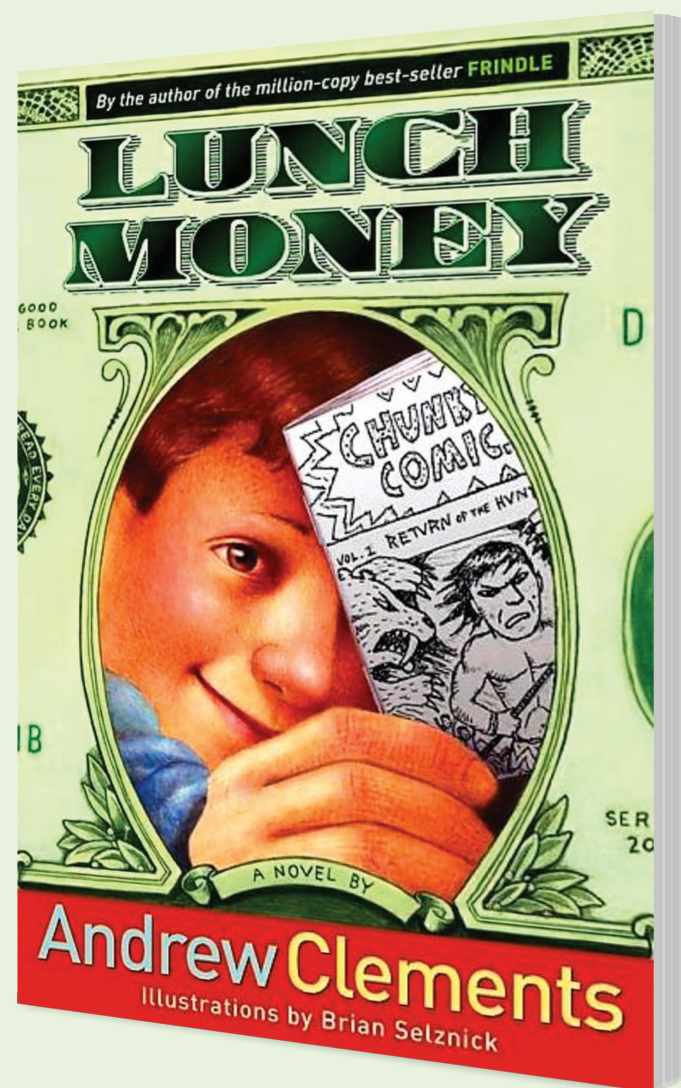
Greg Kenton has two obsessions—making money and his long-standing competition with his annoying neighbor, Maura Shaw. So when Greg discovers that Maura is cutting into his booming Chunky Comics business with her own original illustrated minibooks, he’s ready to declare war.

Theme

Creating Innovative Solutions

Benchmark Vocabulary

Accusing	Contritely	Logically
Activate	Controversy	Negotiations
Agenda	Derailed	Operation
Amateur	Efficient	Pioneering
Bargain	Empire	Privilege
Chaos	Illusion	Production
Conceited	Imitation	Profit
Confession	Initiative	
Contrast	Irrational	



Close Read Questions

- What details make the reader want to know more about Greg’s plan? What conclusions can you draw about Greg? How do Greg’s actions connect to the adage “No pain, no gain”?
- How did Greg react when he learned that someone else was making minibooks?
- How does the phrase *market dominance* inform you about Greg’s conflict with Maria? What evidence in the text supports your response?
- Which do you think is a more upsetting problem to Greg: that he can’t sell his comic books at school or that the principal doesn’t consider them books? What evidence in the story supports your answer?
- Summarize Greg’s solution to the problem of Maura threatening his business. How does Greg and Maura’s new partnership relate to the adage “Two heads are better than one”?
- How are Greg’s, Maura’s, and Mr. Z’s goals different for the School Committee meeting? Predict whether or not the characters will be able to achieve these goals at the meeting. Why do you think so?
- After Mrs. Davenport hears about the School Committee presentation, she refers to Greg and Maura as “tycoons,” or people who are wealthy, powerful, and successful in business. What conclusions can you draw about why the author uses that particular word to describe Greg and Maura?