My dad gave me one dollar bill
‘Cause I’m his smartest son,
And I swapped it for two shiny quarters
‘Cause two is more than one!

And then I took the quarters
And traded them to Lou
For three dimes – I guess he don’t know
That three is more than two!

Just then, along came old blind Bates
And just ‘cause he can’t see
He gave me four nickels for my three dimes,
And four is more than three!

And I took the nickels to Hiram Coombs
Down at the seed-feed store,
And the fool gave me five pennies for them,
And five is more than four!

And then I went and showed my dad,
And he got red in the cheeks
And closed his eyes and shook his head –
Too proud of me to speak!

Activity: Use this poem in combination to a math lesson on money. With teaching 3rd grade math, students sometimes think since three is more than two, three nickels is more than two dimes. After reviewing money amounts, students can go through and record the new money amount each time he traded coins. Besides working with money amounts, this teaches students to look at the whole picture.