

## **Once Poor, Now Rich**

**1<sup>ST</sup> Place Winner, Category I, Grades 1-3**

**Danielle Ford Newfield Primary School**

**St. Philips**

**Antigua and Barbuda**

It was Sunday, 22nd February 1979. The Sim's family was having dinner. There was hardly any food on the table. Tim was angry and sad, "I want more food," he shouted.

Lisa said, "You eat too much."

Tim replied, "Give me more food I'm hungry-"

Dad joined in, "We don't have a lot of money so we can't buy plenty food."

Tim pouted and held his belly. "I'm going to be a millionaire when I grow up", he said, almost crying. "I'm going to invest my money and save it, then I won't be hungry and my children will get enough to eat."

Dad felt sad. "Tim how are you going to invest your money?" he asked. Tim replied loudly, "I'm ten years old. I'm going to put my money in the bank."

Mom was dressed in an old patched up dress, She wiped the sweat from her face. She knew that they had no money to save. "I'm not going to let you invest your money or save it because I want that money to buy food", she shouted.

Dad agreed with Tim, so he said, "I will give you some money son for you to start to invest and save." I think that you will be a businessman someday, and maybe you'll be a millionaire too."

Lisa, Tim's sixteen-year old sister, sided with Mom. She always laughed at Tim's ideas "Please! You don't have any money, Tim", she sneered.

Tim thought for a while, and then he said, "Dad will give me money! And you'll see." They went on eating in silence.

Then mom put down her fork and spoke. "I will not let you invest your money because I want money to buy food. She was afraid if Dad gave Tim money she would not get any from him.

Tim was almost in tears. He ran from the table shouting- "I will not let you stop me from investing my money I really want to be a millionaire!"

Tim and Dad went to discuss their plan without letting Lisa and mom know. They went to the park. Dad said, -I will give you ten dollars every month."

Tim answered. "But Dad, can you afford all that money?"

I will get an extra job working at the supermarket where I will be paid \$100.00 every month." Tim said, "Wow" Dad' I can't believe it. I'm so happy." Dad replied, "We can both start on our project tomorrow." Tim was very happy and thanked dad for helping him.

Mom was at home waiting impatiently for them. She was restless and moving up and down. Sometimes she sat on the chair and sometimes she paced the floor. Lisa told mom not to worry. After about an hour Dad and Tim came home. Mom angrily greeted them with, "Where have you two been?" Lisa chimed in, "Yes. Where you been?"

Dad and Tim answered together, "Nowhere."

Lisa and mom said they didn't believe them. Mom said, "You two we acting such fools."

Tim said, "Ha Ha Ha!"

Dad said, "Let's go son.

This conversation took place twenty-five years ago. The father and son followed their plan and today they have thousands of dollars in the bank. The family is no longer poor and hungry now. Mr Sim and Tim continue to work hard and invest some of their earnings.