



Economics Learning Guide (K)

Home:School Connections

Unit Overview

The introduction to economics will center on the idea that we cannot have everything we want and have to make choices. Students will learn about a variety of jobs (such as a doctor, builder, teacher, cook, farmer, or firefighter) and match them to a basic description. They will recognize that these people work to earn money to buy things that they want, including basic needs of food, clothing, and shelter.

Key Terms and Concepts

Your student may come home using some new vocabulary. Here are just a few so you can continue the conversation:

- choice
- wants
- money

Home Support

There are a number of ways you can support your student during this unit. These are just a few suggestions:

- Make a piggy bank for your child to start saving their own money. Help him pick a goal to save up for so they are more motivated to save instead of spend. You could even discuss something you are saving for and how you are doing!
- As you run errands around town, point out various jobs and the titles of these jobs. Describe how the person completes the job and why it is necessary in the community.
- Play dress up! Visit a local thrift store for costumes your child could use during play that represent various jobs. You could even make your own out of clothes around the house.
- Take your child to visit your work, or that of a friend, and talk to them about what you do during the day.



Books and Websites

Here are some books you can read to your child.

- ***Little Critter: Just Saving My Money*** by Mercer Meyer
- ***Goods and Services*** by Gillian Houghton
- **Lightening Bolt Books: Exploring Economics Series** by Jennifer Larson
- ***Isabel's Carwash*** by Sheila Bair

There are many kid-friendly websites to explore these concepts. A few worth checking out are:

- **Kids Bank** [<http://www.kidsbank.com/>]
- **U.S. Mint for Kids** [<http://www.usmint.gov/kids/games/>]
- **The Mint** [<http://www.themint.org/kids/index.html>]
- **Brain Pop, Jr.** [<http://www.brainpopjr.com/socialstudies/economics/>]