MoneySense for Your Child – Learning and Activity Kit

Pre-school Children (3 to 6 years old)

Concept of Prioritising Needs Over Wants

Learning Objectives

- Understand that money is limited and that there are trade-offs involved when spending.

- Understand the difference between needs and wants.

money**sense**
money matters made simple

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Activity 1: Categorising Needs and Wants

- Make use of daily household items to teach your child the difference between needs and wants.

- Together with your child separate the items in the shopping list in Annex 1 into needs and wants.

- Discuss with your child why each of these items are needs or wants. Feel free to design your own list.

Concept of Saving

Learning Objectives

The importance of saving.

The concepts of saving, spending and sharing.

Activity 2: Save Your Treats
(Also introducing notion of delayed gratification)

- Give your child a healthy snack that they like.

- Encourage them to save a portion by rewarding what is saved in the morning with another of their favourite snacks later. For example, if they save one portion in the morning then reward them with one portion of a different snack after dinner.

Activity 3: Money Talk

- Give your child coins and notes of different denominations.

- Let your child tell you the sizes, shapes and values of the coins and notes.

- Play a simple market activity such as buying and selling to aid their understanding (Annex 2).

- This activity can be enhanced by having children create their own shop for example, bakery, ice-cream counter, supermarket etc.

Activity 4: Create Their Own Savings Boxes

Give your child Savings Boxes, for example, non-fragile empty transparent containers. You can show them the way by saving some of your loose change in these containers.

Give your child drawing materials for them to create a label called "SAVE" (Annex 3). They can also draw pictures and colour the label. They can then paste this on their Savings Boxes.

Activity 5: Savings Box Approach

On special days, for example on their grandparents' birthdays, ask your child to open their Savings Boxes and count the money inside.

Encourage them to use some of their savings to buy gifts for their grandparents.

Categorising Needs and Wants

(Annex 1)

Shopping List	Pricelist	Tick the relevant box!	
		Need	Want
1 packet of rice	$1 $1 $1 $1 $1		
1 packet of chicken	$1 $1		
1 packet of fish	$1 $1 $1		
1 packet of potato chips	$1 $1		
1 packet of vegetables	$1 $1		
1 carton of eggs	$1 $1		
1 tub of Ice-cream	$1 $1 $1 $1 $1		
1 packet of sweets	$1		
1 loaf of bread	$1 $1		
1 carton of milk	$1 $1		

Market Activity

(Annex 2)

Give your child a sum of money for them to do marketing. You will act as the stall holder while they make decisions about what to buy. This activity introduces currency denominations and purchasing trade-offs.

Shopping List	Pricelist
1 packet of rice	$5
1 packet of chicken	$2
1 packet of fish	$3
1 packet of potato chips	$2
1 packet of vegetables	$2
1 carton of eggs	$2
1 tub of Ice-cream	$5
1 packet of sweets	$1
1 loaf of bread	$2
1 carton of milk	$2

Save

(Annex 3)

SAVE

NAME: ....

SAVE

NAME: ....

Dotted Lines Savings Jar

(Annex 4)

Teaching points:

1. Encourage your child to trace the dotted lines and colour the pictures.
2. Ask them to think about the meaning of the pictures.
3. Guide your child to save money in the savings jar.