

# Centsible parenting

A newsletter for parents of third grade children

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

*Ashley is eating supper with her family. Dad says, "It's been a good week. We've paid our bills, put some money in savings, and have \$25 left." "Well good," says Ashley, "I want to go shopping." Dad says, "Wait a minute, that's not just your money to spend." Ashley answers, "Well then, whose is it?"*

*(See end of newsletter for a possible answer.)*

### LEARNING MORE ABOUT YOURSELF

Before you can teach basic money concepts to your child, you need to look at your own values and attitudes related to money.

Values are those very basic things that are important to you. Attitudes are your reactions, positive and negative, to an idea.

Values are strongly influenced by what we experienced and learned as a child. But this can change over time and as we grow.

### CHOOSING WHAT IS IMPORTANT TO YOU

Ask the adults in your home to rank these choices in order of importance to them. Then discuss your answers. The choices you make are a clue to some of your values. These are the values you will teach your children.

Adult #1	Adult #2	Choices
_____	_____	To have people like me
_____	_____	To do things for my family and others
_____	_____	To have friends
_____	_____	To do what is right
_____	_____	To be able to do what I want to do
_____	_____	To do new and different things
_____	_____	To have a lot of nice things
_____	_____	To be able to do things well
_____	_____	To know what will happen tomorrow
_____	_____	To be secure and healthy

## DECIDING WHAT YOU VALUE

Have your child fill in this chart about things he or she likes to do. Then talk about the answers and see if your child can identify the values associated with his or her choices.

Values indicated by the choices are money, family, people, or self.

### What Do You Value?

List five things you really love to do.

Place a check in the column under the right sign for each of these activities.

- \$ for things that cost money
- P for things you do with people
- F for things you do with your family
- A for things you do alone

	\$	P	F	A
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				

Developed by Cooperative Extension Service of the Northeast States

## TALKING IT OVER

Family meetings or councils are a good way to talk over lots of issues, including money. Each family member has a chance to tell about his or her wants and needs. As a unit the family can decide how to allocate their money.

Children need to be included in discussions about money so they can understand where the money comes from and why it is used the way it is.

### CONSIDER THIS

*Dad replies, "The money earned is for the whole family. Let's have a family meeting after supper and everyone can put in their ideas for how to use the money and then we'll decide together." "OK," says Ashley, "I have a lot of good ideas for the money."*

## COMING IN APRIL: UNDERSTANDING ADVERTISING

Prepared by Donna K. Donald, family life field specialist, and Vicki W. Sickels, former family support program associate, and edited by Laura Sternweis, communication specialist, Iowa State University Extension.

#### ... and justice for all

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Many materials can be made available in alternative formats for ADA clients. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964.

Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Stanley R. Johnson, director, Cooperative Extension Service, Iowa State University of Science and Technology, Ames, Iowa.

This newsletter is published for families with third grade children by Iowa State University Extension. For more information about parenting education, contact your local county extension office or access the Iowa State University Extension to Families website, [www.extension.iastate.edu/families](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/families).