

Invest in **ME**

Kindergarten

Needs vs. Wants Family Guide

All people have needs and wants. Sometimes deciding which is which can be hard. You can help your child understand the difference between a want and a need. Talk about how you make decisions about spending money. Help them understand that sometimes we may have to delay what we want for something we need.

The **Needs vs. Wants** activity was shared with your child as part of the Invest in ME Kindergarten program. Invest in ME Kindergarten is a joint program of the Alford Scholarship Foundation and the Finance Authority of Maine. It was designed to help your child think about their future.

Here are some ways you can connect with your child about this activity.

Define Needs vs. Wants

Needs: Things we must have to do a job

Wants: Something we would like, but do not need to do a job

Dinner Conversations

- Ask your child to think about what they want to be when they grow up. Ask them what they believe they will need to do that job. Example, a doctor would need a stethoscope or a carpenter would need a hammer.
- Talk about your job. What do you need to do your job? Are there things that you want, but don't need to do your job? Example, if you work in an office, you might need a computer, but you don't need to have a new pair of shoes to do your work.
- Ask your child what they need to be a good student. If they mention something that is a want, help them understand the difference.



Did you know? Many children in Kindergarten have a \$500 Alford Grant for education after high school. Learn how you can invest in your child's bright future with a NextGen 529[®] account at **BrightFutureforME.com!**