

Start 'em young: A checklist to grow great money habits

You're never too young to start learning about money. Help the children in your life discover the value of earning, saving and giving back with this handy activity checklist. Remember to use the other resources on Momentum onUp® to help you accomplish these checklist items:

- Help your child set a savings goal, and develop a plan to earn the money they need.
- Give your child a chore and then pay them when they complete it.
Bonus Work: Connect this to the concept of what you do when you go to work each day, and make it fun by working together to create a chart that shows how much they can earn for each job.
- Help your child create a system to organize their money into 'spending', 'saving' and 'giving' categories, using bank accounts or a piggy bank.
Bonus Work: Discuss why each category is important and how they'd like to divide their earnings.
- Encourage your child to identify what matters most to them by writing down what they value.
Bonus Work: Discuss how we want the majority of our hard-earned money to be spent on the things and people we value most.
- Take some time to explain your household budget.
Bonus Work: Using simple terms, discuss the need to think about 'needs' like groceries, power and gas before spending on 'wants' like movie tickets or a new pair of shoes.
- Help the children in your life experience the joy of giving back by encouraging them to identify a toy they no longer play with, or a cherished article of clothing, they could donate to someone less fortunate.
Bonus Work: Talk about why it's important to share what we have with those who may not have as much.
- Discuss with your child about less-expensive alternatives to common purchases like eating out or going to the movies.
Bonus Work: Take the time to enjoy a home-cooked meal or at-home movie night together. Discuss how the less costly option is often just as much fun, as you save what you could have spent for the future.

