



Choices & tradeoffs

BIG IDEA

Money helps us choose what matters most.

Start with this

Say: **“Imagine I gave you \$10, but you can only choose from the cards on the next page. What would you pick?”**

There is no correct answer. Let your child choose, then stay curious:

- Why did you pick that?
- What else did you want?
- What made this one matter more today?

Add the twist

Ask them to pick two things they want whose prices add up to more than \$10. They cannot have both today. What could they do?

They might choose one, wait and save, find a cheaper version, or think of a way to earn more. Every answer opens a useful conversation.

SECRET MONEY WORD: TRADEOFF

A tradeoff happens when choosing one thing means giving up—or waiting on—something else.

Dinner-table question

“What is something our family chooses to spend money on because it matters to us?”



Choice detective

You have **\$10**. Circle what you would choose. You may choose more than one, but your total cannot go over \$10.

Ice cream with a friend

\$5

A book you want

\$8

A surprise for someone

\$6

A new game

\$10

Keep some for later

Any amount

Movie-night treats

\$4

A small toy

\$7

Art supplies

\$5

I chose:

I also wanted:

My choice mattered to me because:

THIS WEEK'S MISSION

Spot three tradeoffs in real life. They can involve money, time, food, or what you do on Saturday.

1. I chose _____ instead of _____.
2. I chose _____ instead of _____.
3. I chose _____ instead of _____.