

Wants vs. Needs Activity

Supplies:

- Big piece of paper or whiteboard/chalkboard
- Markers

Instructions

1. On your piece of paper/whiteboard/chalkboard draw two columns
2. On the top of one column write wants and on the other write needs
3. Explain to your troop that they need to decide if the items below are just an item you want or one that you need to survive and function
4. Read of each items and have your troop decide if it is a want or a need. Write the item in the column the troop decides it should be in. (I've not included a category for the items below because different geographic areas may have different wants vs. needs)
 - a. Socks
 - b. Teddy Bear
 - c. Apple
 - d. iPhone
 - e. Car
 - f. Lip-gloss
 - g. Purse
 - h. Scarf
 - i. Boots
 - j. TV
 - k. Pan
 - l. Ice Cream
 - m. Math Book
 - n. Video Game
 - o. Laptop
5. After everyone in the troop is happy with the column each item is in, talk through how part of money management is balancing buying items that are wants and needs. Explain that you need to purchase items that are needs more than items that are wants. Give examples of saving money to pay for computer for college rather than a TV. Or give examples from your own life.