

To Save or Not to Save

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

“Daddy, I want to buy this candy.” Wendy declared, waving an orange bag in front of her dad near the cash register.

Her father shook his head. “We don’t need that.” He seemed to think it was a done deal. He was already putting the groceries on the counter.

“We don’t, but I do.” She replied sweetly. She always tried sweetness when her father first said no.

With a smile and another head shake, father said, “I know what you’re doing, and it won’t work. We and *you* don’t need it.”

“Daddy...” Wendy whined, stomping her foot. Cuteness was going out the door, and whiney was rapidly approaching.

“Wendy.” Father said sharply. He was losing his patience.

Wendy sniffed sadly. “Can you at least explain why?”

Father opened his mouth to say something angry, but snapped it back shut. After a moment, he said, “Tell you what, I’ll make you a deal.”

“A deal?” Wendy perked up. “What sort of deal?”

“I will let you spend the \$1.99 on that candy now, or I will give you \$3.00 at home.”

Wendy frowned as she considered her options. “But at home I won’t have any candy.”

“No, you won’t, but you’ll have an extra dollar to spend on something you really want next time, instead of this silly impulse buy that you only think you want.”

“I do want it,” Wendy clarified, “but I think I’ll take the extra dollar at home. I can buy something cooler than candy. Once it’s gone, all I have is an empty package.”

“That is my point exactly. I’ll give you your \$3.00 at home.” Father smiled, pleased with himself.

Wendy was also pleased. It was a win-win situation for the both of them.



To Save or Not to Save

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What does Wendy want to buy?
 - A. makeup
 - B. candy
 - C. magazines
 - D. cookies

2. Why did the author *italicize* one word in this sentence: "We and *you* don't need it."?
 - A. The author hit the wrong button.
 - B. The author wasn't sure of the spelling.
 - C. The author was introducing a new word.
 - D. The author wanted to show that father was stressing the word 'you' when he said it.

3. What is Wendy's first way of asking for the candy?
 - A. Sweetness
 - B. Crankiness
 - C. Whining
 - D. Crying

4. Which option does Wendy choose when her father offers her a choice?
 - A. take the candy now
 - B. take the money
 - C. take both
 - D. take neither

5. What lesson do you think father is trying to teach his daughter?
 - A. Don't bother daddy when you're shopping.
 - B. Be careful with money. Don't waste it on silly things.
 - C. Crying won't work to get what you want.
 - D. Don't be a brat.

To Save or Not to Save

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What does Wendy want to buy?
 - A. makeup
 - B. candy**
 - C. magazines
 - D. cookies
2. Why did the author *italicize* one word in this sentence: "We and *you* don't need it."?
 - A. The author hit the wrong button.
 - B. The author wasn't sure of the spelling.
 - C. The author was introducing a new word.
 - D. The author wanted to show that father was stressing the word 'you' when he said it.**
3. What is Wendy's first way of asking for the candy?
 - A. Sweetness**
 - B. Crankiness
 - C. Whining
 - D. Crying
4. Which option does Wendy choose when her father offers her a choice?
 - A. take the candy now
 - B. take the money**
 - C. take both
 - D. take neither
5. What lesson do you think father is trying to teach his daughter?
 - A. Don't bother daddy when you're shopping.
 - B. Be careful with money. Don't waste it on silly things.**
 - C. Crying won't work to get what you want.
 - D. Don't be a brat.