

### Things To Do When Money Is Short

**Here are some things to think about when money is short.**

- \*Think about things you have been spending money on that you can do without—movies, magazines, music, extra snacks, sodas, etc.**
- \*Think about ways to earn money—babysitting, pet sitting, mowing lawns, delivering papers, etc.**
- \*Think about ways to stretch the money your family does have—sew or mend clothing, gardening, babysit for younger brothers/sisters, prepare meals, etc.**
- \*Turn off the lights, television, and other small appliances.**
- \*Take shorter showers to cut down on the hot water used.**
- \*Hang your clothes up after wearing so they will not need to be washed and dries as often and will last longer.**
- \*Do not stand with the refrigerator door open while deciding what to eat.**
- \*Drink water, milk, and juices, which are healthier and can be less expensive than soda.**
- \*Turn off the water while brushing your teeth, turn on (small stream) for rinsing.**
- \*Use less shampoo—only enough to clean the hair (too much lather is wasteful).**
- \*Buy generic brands of personal care products.**
- \*Don't be wasteful with food.**
- \*Give gifts to friends and family of your time and energy rather than money.**
- \*Think about the things you do that make other people in your family angry. Find ways to avoid doing those things.**
- \*Do extra chores; help out without being asked.**
- \*Clean up after yourself.**
- \*Avoid picking fights.**

**\*Spend time caring for younger brothers/sisters.**

**\*Share your possessions and school supplies with other family members.**

**\*Be generous with your time.**

**\*Keep a good sense of humor.**

**\*Be enthusiastic about trying new ideas.**

**\*If a task needs to be done and you can do it, do it; it will be appreciated.**

**\*Treat your family with kindness. Be courteous using “please and thank you” generously.**

**\*Accept decisions of others in a positive manner.**

**Remember, no matter what your age, there are things you can do to help at home during tough times!**