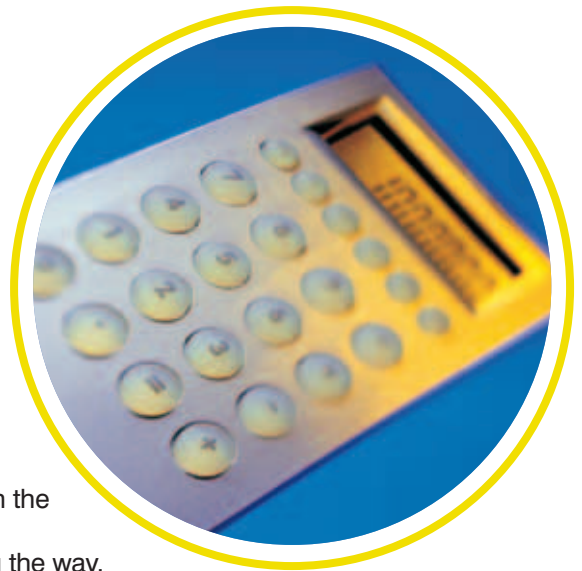


Provide Allowances

Giving your child a weekly allowance is a great way of teaching them the basics of budgeting and savings—as well as making sure that your kids' budget remains within your household budget!

- Set an amount weekly that you give to your child, money that he or she can use to buy the “extras”—CDs, toys, going out with friends, and other things outside the necessities. Whether this allowance is \$0.25 or \$25.00, providing the same amount weekly will help them to save and to budget.
- Give your child this amount each week at the same time, and teach them the basics of building a budget for the things they want to buy.
- Encourage them to plan short-term savings goals, and cheer them along the way.



Shop Smart

Even kids can shop smart, and you can make it both educational and fun by turning saving into a game.

Teach them the basics of comparison shopping, using coupons and promotions, and other Smart Shopping tricks, and they will become habits for a lifetime.

- Make shopping smart a game!
- Clip coupons together every Sunday.
- Use the newspaper and shopping trips together to comparison shop, comparing prices at different stores and keeping track of where the best deals are.
- After shopping, add up how much you've saved—it's great for keeping those math skills sharp!

Start Savings Habits Early

Even small children can collect change, and older children should be encouraged to set aside money each week, or at birthdays and other occasions, for longer-term goals. Buy younger children a piggy bank, while encouraging older children to open a bank account as soon as possible—many banks offer special no-fee accounts designed especially for kids.

Include Charity

If it's important to you, encourage your children as early as possible to begin setting aside part of their savings for charity. If money is tight, kids can save their money but show charity by getting a neighbor's mail or by picking up litter they pass on the street.

Consider “matching” their contribution and making the donation together to a local community non-profit or religious group.

