

#### Lesson 3

# Needs & Wants

#### **Lesson Summary**

So far, Ollie the Owl has learned that money is a really flexible and valuable tool. It has been used for thousands of years and many people work really hard to earn it. In this lesson, Ollie will learn about the many reasons people choose to use and spend money. In particular, Ollie is going to learn about the many influences that impact our decisions to spend, and also learn the difference between a WANT and a NEED.



The difference between NEEDS and WANTS is very important.



#### How to use this lesson

- Read the material presented
- Use the prompts to discuss the material with your class
- Encourage children to work in groups
- Allow time for reflection and discussion
- Use the appropriate class activity at the end of the lesson to support learning

# Discussion Time

We are going to consider needs and wants. Needs are things we must have to survive, like food and clothes. Wants are things you would like to have but you can manage without, like designer clothes and sweets.

## Activity

List some everyday needs.

List some everyday wants.







#### A Tale of Two Friends

#### **Meet Molly**

This year, Molly expects to receive some money for her birthday. She really likes the latest fashion ads she sees on TV, online and in magazines. Some of the fashions on display look so good, especially those her favourite celebrities are promoting. After watching them, she really wants to buy a few of the items being promoted.

Molly knows what she likes, but she also is being influenced by some really creative advertising, this is especially the case when one of her favourite fashion icons promotes a product. It works like this:

By creating exciting and memorable ads that feature celebrities, advertising companies want to encourage people like Molly to spend their money.

Molly doesn't need the latest, most expensive fashion, but she really wants it. And that will influence her spending decisions.

If Molly keeps studying and perfecting her skills, who knows, maybe someday she might own her own company where she can pay people to promote her products or services. But for now, Molly just needs to realise that we can all have our spending decisions influenced by advertisements.

#### **Meet Karen**

Karen lives next door to Molly. She and Molly have been best friends for years. Karen is not especially interested in celebrities. But Karen is really into fashion. In many ways, Karen and Molly are very much alike. When it comes to money, Karen knows how difficult it is to earn and save. There is so much temptation to spend.

When she NEEDS a new pair of shoes, her mother encourages her to see if she can help her to search for and find the best deals and only buy when she finds the best value for money.

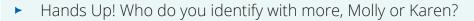
When Karen sees something that she likes, she asks herself if she really needs it or just wants it. Last week, she saw a new jacket but decided not to buy it since she already has one. Her first impulse was to buy the jacket but she stopped herself and eventually decided that she didn't need it.

Karen likes to have her own money. She's happy with that. Last month, a new laptop that she needed for school went on a sale as a special 1-Day promotion. Karen bought it for half price and saved over €400.

Karen is really patient when it comes to spending. She usually has enough saved to buy the things she wants.

### **Question Time**

Considering the stories of Molly and Karen, is there a time you have purchased an item you may not have needed and regretted the decision later? Discuss.

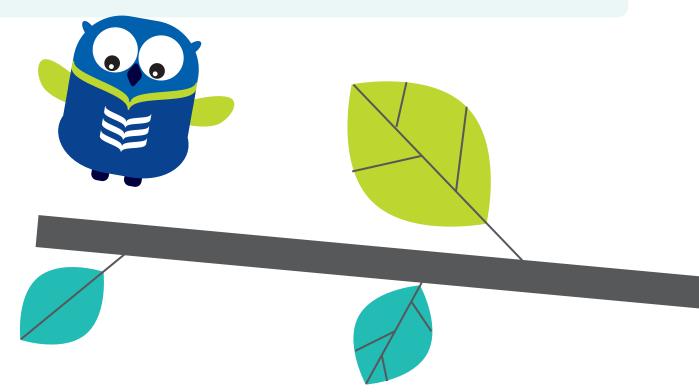




"It's important to sometimes spend money on things you want, it is nice to have the latest fashion."

"Being fashionable is important to some people, but not to all or at the cost of having no money for the things you need."





## Did you know...?

Companies conduct research into how people think and feel about their products and then use this information to create ads, to encourage people to visit their shop or website and to buy their products. Companies can use some of the following in their ads:



#### **Celebrities**

Celebrities endorse products or services. This means they are paid to say that they like a product or service. When they do this, they may wear a particular brand of shoes, eat a particular type of food or drink a particular brand of water or soft drink and then tell everyone that they like it.

By saying that they like a product, celebrities can influence other people's purchasing decisions so that lots of people chose to buy that product.



#### **Slogans and Music**

Companies can use a catchy slogan or a particular piece of music for their product to help people remember it.

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#### **Stories and Pictures**

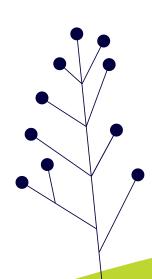
Sometimes ads tell a story about a product, these stories can include pictures of the products or services.

#### **Emotions**

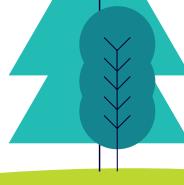
Sometimes ads can make us feel different emotions, for example using comedy to make us laugh and feel happy.

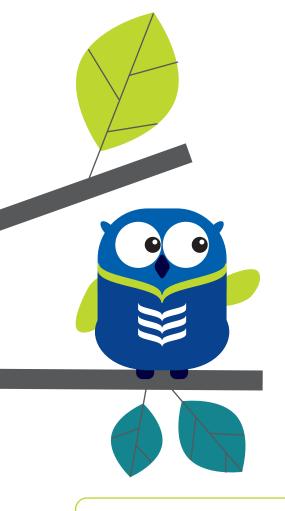
When advertisements use some of these, they can be very appealing and memorable and we might decide to purchase that product because of that ad. But sometimes, you can find a similar product from another company at a better price.

So, as you consider how to spend your money, consider how others are working to entice you to spend your money buying their product.









## Did you know...?

Budgeting – when it comes to budgeting and managing money, a simple rule that is often used is called the 50:30:20 rule. Where someone has £100, using the 50:30:20 rule, it means that when it comes to saving and spending, ideally, 50% or £50 would be used for essential life NEEDS. 30% or £30 would be used for life WANTS. The remaining 20% or £20 should be saved.

## **Discussion Time**

- 1. Name a celebrity / sports star you admire.
- 2. Would you buy something because that is what your favourite celebrity / sports star likes? Why?
- 3. Name some recent ads you have seen and say what you think of them.

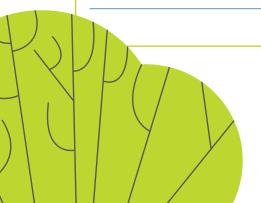
## Class Activity - £100 Challenge

If you were given £100 today, what would you do with it?

SAVE all of it, SPEND all of it, SAVE some and SPEND some of it?

How much of the £100 would you save and how much would you spend? Why?

List what you would spend it on:



## **NEED or WANT**

Below is a list of items we want you to identify as a NEED or a WANT. Please work your way through the list and indicate if you feel it is a NEED or a WANT.

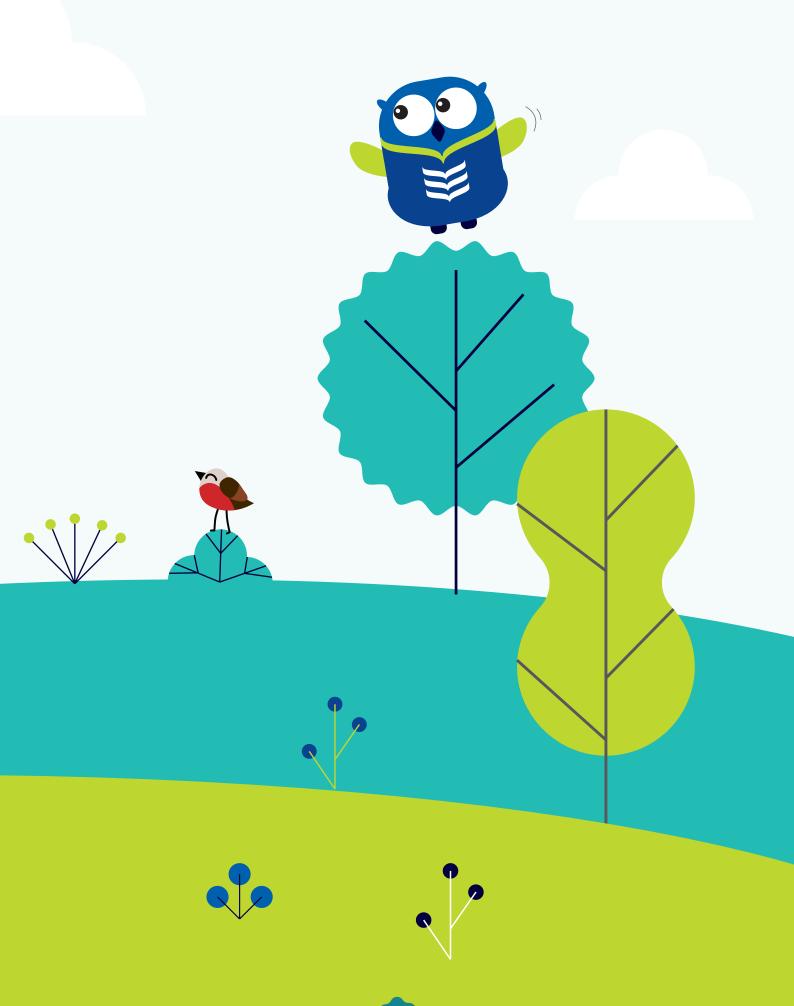
Tip – every time you think about spending money, ask yourself if it's for a NEED or a WANT.



# Additional Class Activities

Class	Learning Objective	Activity
P2 & P3	Identify a NEED	Ask children to list 5 things they must have.
P2 & P3	Identify a WANT	Ask children to list 5 important things they would like to have now (use answers to discuss NEEDS & WANTS).
P4 to P7	Make children aware of things that influence us	Ask children to list if they have really wanted something after they had seen a celebrity using it.
P4 to P7	Make children aware of advertising	Ask children to list an item they really wanted even though there were less expensive options available.
P4 to P7	Advertising impact on spending	Ask children how much they are willing to spend on a pair of trainers or on a game and discuss.





#### We welcome your feedback, so please feel free to share your thoughts at

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