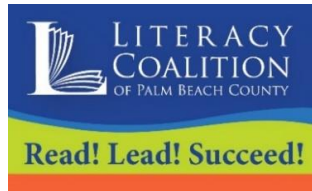


READ and THINK before you ACT.



Leading through Reading

Needs vs. Wants (3-5)

READ

There are things you **need** and there are things you **want**. Needs are different from wants. Things that you need are the items that keep you alive. Food, water, and shelter are *needs*.

Things that you want are things that make your life more enjoyable, but you could live without. Video games, candy and television shows are examples of wants. When you appreciate having what you need, then you can be happy without having everything that you want.

THINK



In *Those Shoes*, the grandmother stated, "There's no room for want around here, just need." How do you think the grandmother felt when she saw the price tag on the shoes Jeremy wanted?

Watch the [happiness video](#) from PBS. How does being grateful make someone feel happy?

What do you need to be happy?

ACT



Watch this video about [needs vs. wants](#). Then, get your school backpack. Carefully, empty it.

Try this exercise:

Pretend you are going on an overnight trip. You will be away for one night and one full day. You will be going to a safe place. You will have a comfortable room. It is a very nice room, but all it has is a bed, blanket and pillow.

You can only bring what will fit in your backpack. You will have to bring food that does not need to be refrigerated, something to drink, clothing and some kind of entertainment.

What things would you **NEED** to pack? What things would you **WANT** to pack?

Try packing your backpack with those things. First, pack everything that you **NEED**. If you have room leftover, then you may add some of the things that you **WANT**.

In real life, instead of limited space in a backpack, it is limited money to spend. With the backpack, first you packed what you needed. Then, you packed what you wanted. With money, first you must buy what you need. Then, you may buy or save what you want. It is important to be grateful for what you are able to have and to enjoy.

Be sure to clean up!

This at-home educational activity is from the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County's literacy-based social emotional learning program.

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Sharing is caring! Send us a picture of you and your *Read! Lead! Succeed!* projects to nbirardi@literacypbc.org



Read: [Those Shoes](#) by Maribeth Boelts
Shoes are a necessity, but do they have to be the most popular brand name?
What is more important?

