

MAKING CHOICES-How will you invest your resources?

INSTRUCTIONS




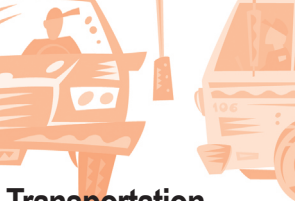

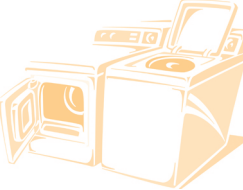


- A. As the game states, you are married with two children and one of you works full-time and the other works two part-time jobs, both of you make minimum wage.
- B. Smartie candy is symbolic of your budget...don't eat until the end of the game. You have 15 smarties to allocate in each of the 8 rows. You can NOT skip a row...you must have smarties in each row.
- C. QUESTION: How did it feel making your choices of where to budget your money?
- D. SCENARIO CHANGE: Your 9 year old daughter has an infected tooth and has to see the dentist (not covered by your health insurance if you have it). In order for her to see the dentist you must give up TWO of your smarties, which means reallocating where you budget your money. Remember: you can NOT skip a row.
- E. QUESTION: How did it feel this time when you had to take off two of the candies?
- F. SCENARIO CHANGE: Your life is about to get even more difficult because your spouse just got laid off with no severance pay. Take FOUR of your smarties off your sheet and reallocate the remaining smarties so that you have at least one smartie in each of the 8 rows.
- G. The moral of this game is that there are hardworking people right here in Muscatine that make these kind of tough decisions every day. United Way not only helps meet the immediate needs like hunger and homelessness, we also address the root causes of the problems. It's not enough to feed someone who's hungry, it's important to find out why the person is hungry in the first place and address the problem at its source. United Way provides a coordinated, strategic, sustainable approach to solving Muscatine's most pressing issues.
- H. Some UWM Programs and Funded Programs that could possibly be able to help the family in this situation:
- United Way's Information & Referral Program
 - United Way's Kid's First Fund
 - FamilyWize Discount Drug Prescription Card
 - Muscatine Center for Social Action
 - Family Resources In-home Counseling
 - Family Program Services-Muscatine Community YMCA
 - The Salvation Army
 - Trinity Public Health Dental Sealant
 - Bag of Blessings Program
- I. How do you fit into this game? This is your opportunity to be a part of the change. You can help make a difference in our community. You can give, you can advocate, you can volunteer.

Making Choices

How will you invest your resources?

If you had a “15-candy budget” to spend every month how would you spend it? What would your priorities be? Place the required number of candies to indicate your spending choices. You have to make a choice for each category (you can’t skip any categories). You are married; you both work and have a son, 14 and a daughter, 9.



Category	A (1 Candy)	B (2 Candies)	C (3 Candies)
 Housing Studio apartment (1 bedroom), 1 bath, unfurnished, no patio/deck/yard, street parking only (no covered parking space), stove only <input type="radio"/>	3 bedroom 1 bath <i>apartment</i> , unfurnished, covered patio, 1 covered parking space, stove and refrigerator <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	2 bedroom 1 ½ bath <i>house</i> , unfurnished, small fenced yard, 2-car garage, stove, refrigerator and dishwasher <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
 Healthcare No health insurance, you pay for all health related costs <input type="radio"/>	Health insurance for you through your employer but no health insurance for your family members. <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	Health insurance for you and your family through your employer. <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
 Food (per person) 1 meal a day <input type="radio"/>	2 meals a day <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	3 meals a day+ snacks <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
 Transportation Walk or bike everywhere, no public transit available <input type="radio"/>	Walk, bike or take public transit <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	Own your own car <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
 Technology access No computer No cell phone Black & White TV - No cable <input type="radio"/>	No computer Cell phone TV - No cable <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	Home computer TV with cable Cell phone <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
 Laundry facilities Laundromat <input type="radio"/>	Shared laundry room in apartment complex <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	Own washer/dryer, in your home <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
 Shopping 1 grocery store within walking distance, no mall within 20 miles <input type="radio"/>	Grocery store across the street from your home and a mini-mall within a mile <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	2 grocery stores nearby and a large mall within walking distance <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
 Spending money After the bills/food are paid no extra money left <input type="radio"/>	\$20 left over each week after all bills are paid <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	\$50 left over each week after all bills are paid <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	

