Kindergarten Human Needs and Wants Resources

New York State Learning Standards for Social Studies

**Basic human needs and wants**
People define basic human needs and wants. Families have needs and wants.

**People helping one another to meet needs and wants (e.g., recycling and conservation projects)**
People rely on each other for goods and services in families, schools, and the neighborhood. People make economic decisions and choices.

**Books:**

Present the things that everyone needs, as well as things some people want, and invites the reader to consider his or her own wants and needs.

Guided Reading: E
20 Pages

*Need it or Want it* by Colleen Hord (2012)
Includes bibliographical references (p. 24) and index. Simple text helps children learn the differences between needs and wants and the role each plays in their daily life.

Guided Reading: n/a
24 Pages
*Needs and Wants* by Gillia M. Olson (2009)
Describes the concept of needs and wants and making choices between the two.

Guided Reading: H
24 Pages

*Lily Learns About Wants and Needs* by Lisa Bullard (2014)
Includes bibliographical references (page 24) and index. Want or need? -- Buying only what we need -- Everyone has to make choices -- When "wants" are okay. Teaches about the difference between wants and needs, and making choices.

Guided Reading: K
24 Pages

*Wants or Needs* by Elizabeth Moore (2014)
Includes index. Explains the difference between things people need to live and things they want. What do we want? What do we need? Explore the difference between these two categories in this book about basic economics.

Guided Reading: G
20 Pages
Goods and Services Around Town by Heather E. Schwartz (2014)
Includes index. Introduces the concept of commerce through a discussion of the kinds of goods and services that can be bought in a town.

Guided Reading: J
24 Pages

A Look at Goods and Services by Janeen Adil (2006)
Includes bibliographical references (p. 23) and index.; Things that people buy -- Goods and services -- Government services -- Producers -- Consumers -- Earning income -- Joe is a producer -- Joe is a consumer. Simple text and photographs explain what goods and services are and their role in earning income and spending money.

Guided Reading: P
24 Pages

Goods and Services by Gillian Houghton (2009)
Includes index. Buy me! -- I need it! I want it! -- Needs come first -- Plan for your wants -- Get a job! -- The goods -- At your service -- The producers -- The consumers -- Shop smart! Photographs and simple text introduce young readers to the difference between needing and wanting something, and how to plan and work for the wants.

Guided Reading: n/a
24 Pages
**Goods or Services** by Ellen Mitten (2012)
Includes bibliographical references (p. 24) and index. Simple text helps children learn the differences between goods and services, the role each plays in their daily life, and the people who provide them in the community.

Guided Reading: J
24 Pages

**What Do We Buy: A Look at Goods and Services** by Robin Nelson (2010)
Includes bibliographical references (p. 31) and index.;What do you buy? -- Goods -- Services -- Needs and wants -- Consumers and producers -- Resources. Provides an introduction to goods and services, defines needs and wants, and explains how resources are used.

Guided Reading: K
32 Pages

**Do I Need it or Do I Want It: Making Budget Choices** by Jennifer S. Larson (2010)
An introduction to budgeting that explains how to make a budget and stick to it, how to decide if something is a need or a want, why it is important to have a budget, and how to save and spend money wisely.

Guided Reading: L
32 Pages
*Basic Needs* by Jean R. Feldman (2010)
Photographs and simple text describe the basic needs animals must meet in order to survive, including air, water, food, and shelter.

Guided Reading: G
12 Pages

*Clothing* by Robin Nelson (2004)
A simple introduction to why people need clothes and how they obtain them.

Guided Reading: E
8 Pages

*Food* by Robin Nelson (2004)
A simple introduction to why people need food and how they obtain it.

Guided Reading: E
8 Pages
A simple introduction to why people need homes and how they obtain them.

Guided Reading: E  
8 Pages

A simple introduction to why people have jobs.

Guided Reading: E  
8 Pages

*Food* by Alexandra Fix (2008)
Discusses food, where food comes from, how it gets in our homes, how to buy wisely, and how we can reduce food waste.

Guided Reading: L  
32 Pages
**Digital Resources**

**Databases:** (To access these databases remotely, ask your librarian for your school’s username and password.)

**Brainpop Jr.:** Brainpop, Jr. is a database that provides a 3-6 minute video on informational topics followed by a comprehension quiz. The database includes activities and lesson plans as well. It is geared towards grades K-3.

These videos align with New York State Social Studies Standards for Kindergarten.

Two different online quizzes are offered after each video to check for understanding. They are entitled “Easy” and “Hard” with 5 questions each.
**Pebble Go!**: *Pebble Go is a database that includes non-fiction books, videos and activities online. The target audience for Pebble Go is Kindergarten through 3rd grade, however Pebble Go can be a great way to pique interest in a topic for 4th and 5th graders. Each book is 5 pages long and includes a read-aloud button that highlights each word as it reads aloud. There are often one or two very short videos on the topic embedded within each book. Pebble Go’s Social Studies Section has a collection of books called “All About Money,” which supports the New York State Social Studies Standards on Needs and Wants for Kindergarten. They include titles like the ones pictured below. You can access this section by Clicking on Social Studies and then “All About Money.”*

Here is a Pebble Go game called “Good or Service” where you look at the picture and select whether or not it represents a good or service.
Here are examples from two of the titles in the “All About Money” section:

**Needs and Wants**

People spend money almost every day. They buy food at grocery stores. They buy toys and clothes at malls. Some things people buy are needs. Other things they buy are wants.

**Scarcity**

The things people want and use are called resources. But people often want more resources than they can get. Scarcity happens when there aren’t enough resources for everyone.
Websites:

*Teaching Children the Difference Between Needs and Wants*
This website provides a lesson plan for illustrating the difference between needs and wants. Here's what you'll need: magazines and flyers, scissors, glue, and a large piece of white paper.

*Do You Really Need It?*
http://www.citi.com/citi/financiaweduction/curriculum/images/need_k2_aid.swf
A short animated journey through the difference between needs and wants with Oscar the Owl. It includes a short selection game where students pick what they think is a need and what they think is a want.

*All I Really Need Lesson Plan*
http://www.uen.org/Lessonplan/preview?LPid=25968
This lesson plan helps students to recognize that people have basic needs (food, shelter, and clothing) and wants (toys, games, treats). Includes attachment wants and needs chart and picture cards.

*Needs and Wants Resources*
http://www.internet4classrooms.com/grade_level_help/economics_needs_wants_kindergarten_k-social_studies.htm
Includes links to lesson plans and activities that focus on needs and wants.

*Needs and Wants Activities for Kids*
Classroom and at Home activities for teaching about needs and wants.

*Marbles Kids Museum Money Words Game*
http://www.marbleskidsmuseum.org/stuff/contentmgr/files/0/6746b045f08a451bf5db98f7b9adb61a/files/money_words__lesson_plan_11.17.11.pdf
A lesson plan with an economics game. Vocabulary can be adjusted for grade level.

iPad apps:

There are currently no quality iPad apps that fit this Social Studies standard.