

Bertie's socks

Will Bertie get some socks during his trip to the supermarket?

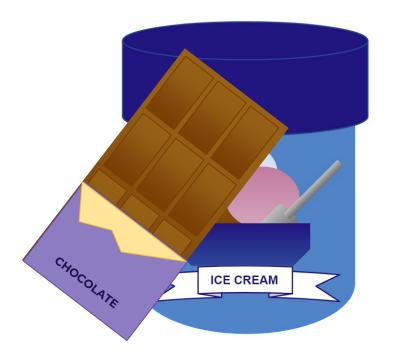
'We're off to the supermarket!' Sarah's mother announced.

Sarah and her younger brother, Finn, got into the car.

'Can we buy ice-cream?' asked Sarah.

'And chocolate?' added Finn.

'And stickers?' asked Sarah.



'And don't forget, Bertie Bear needs socks,' said Finn, holding up his teddy bear.

'Remember, we can't buy everything,' said Mum, checking that she had her purse and her shopping list.

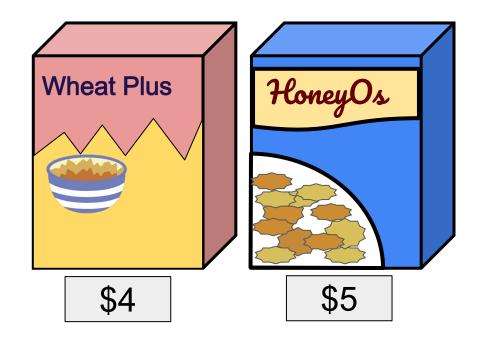


Finn sat in the shopping trolley, talking to Bertie.

Sarah saw her mum pick up two different cereal boxes.

'I wonder which is better,' said Mum.

'Bertie wants to eat both!' said Finn.
'But I told him, we can't buy
everything.'



Sarah saw a poster. 'Mum, Priya has this poster in her bedroom. Can I please get it?' Priya was Sarah's best friend.

Mum looked at the price. 'That's a lot of money for a poster. Maybe we could buy it later, for your birthday.'



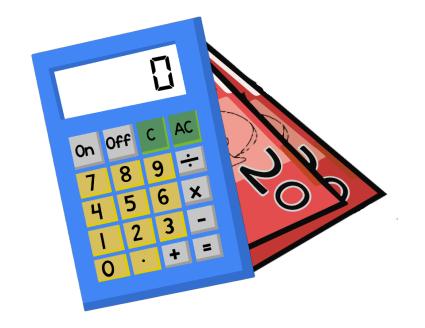
'We can buy it for Bertie's birthday. Bertie's birthday is every day,' said Finn.

Mum and Finn laughed, but Sarah kept looking back at the poster.



They reached the check-out. Mum noticed that Sarah was watching as she paid.

'Next time we shop, I am putting you in charge. You can make decisions about what we can afford and I will help you pay at the check-out. You can ask me lots of questions about shopping, to make sure that you are ready.'



'That sounds great,' said Sarah. She had some serious thinking and planning to do!

'We bought everything on our list,' said Mum. Then she smiled. 'We also bought a few other things.'

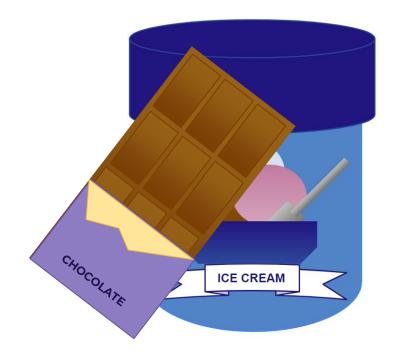


'Ice-cream?' asked Sarah.

'Chocolate?' asked Finn.

'Not those things,' said Mum.

'Not this time. But because we were so careful with our budgeting and bought everything we need, we can now afford to spend a little on something we WANT...'





Smiling, Mum handed Sarah a small packet of stickers. And then she put some tiny new socks on Bertie.