



Parents: How to Talk to Your Kids about Money

ICBA and First National Bank provide tips and advice for parents to talk to their elementary-aged children about finances

It should be no surprise that when it comes to personal financial habits, parents hold the most sway over their children's attitudes and behaviors about money. The Independent Community Bankers of America® (ICBA) and First National Bank release advice for parents on how to talk to their children about money.

ICBA and First National Bank suggest the following tips that parents can employ to help their elementary-aged children learn better money skills:

- **Teachable Moments:** Look for ways to turn everyday experiences into teachable moments. A routine trip to the grocery store could turn into a discussion about the importance of budgeting and how to identify wants versus needs.
- **Earning Money:** How children earn their money is up to their parents, but it is important that once they've earned it they understand it is a limited commodity. If your child spends all his or her money and asks to borrow more from you, don't give in and spoil a valuable lesson.
- **A Tiered Savings System:** When teaching children about money, it is suggested that parents institute a tiered system that allocates money for spending, long-term goals and charity. By automatically taking 10 or 15 percent off the top of their earnings and designating it for savings, children can develop the habit of paying themselves first at a young age.
- **Monkey See, Monkey Do:** Be a good role model! Let your children see you set a savings goal and delay gratification until you have reached that goal. When you have a healthy relationship with money, chances are your children will too.
- **Don't Go It Alone:** Community banks are excellent resources when it comes to teaching children about financial literacy. Take your kids to the local community bank so they can watch you deposit money into your account, speak with a teller or learn more about the community bank and how it operates.

Providing parents with information to help educate their children is something we find very important. Parents are role models to their children and helping to equip mom or dad with financial literacy resources is something First National Bank is here to provide. We understand the importance of teaching children these skills at a young age so they have the tools they need to help build strong financial futures.

To learn more about ICBA, visit www.icba.org.

About ICBA

The Independent Community Bankers of America®, the nation's voice for more than 6,500 community banks of all sizes and charter types, is dedicated exclusively to representing the interests of the community banking industry and its membership through effective advocacy, best-in-class education and high-quality products and services. For more information, visit www.icba.org