



## Lesson 3 Exploring Needs and Wants

You will need:

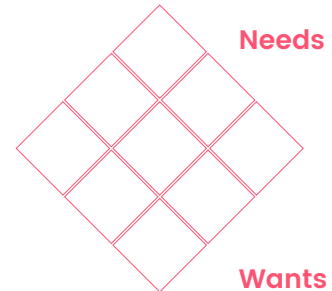
- 'I Want It' KS1/2 Interactive storybook.
- **RESOURCE 3.1**  
Diamond 9 cards prepared  
- per pupil, group or pair.

## Lesson Outcomes

Using a range of needs and wants, including basic human needs, children are encouraged to consider some of the priorities that adults may need to set when operating with limited funds and how this might affect them and their family.

## The Activity

- The purpose of the activity is to stimulate discussion about how families may prioritise spending on essentials and to help children understand that when money is scarce there are choices and sacrifices that may need to be made.
- Using the Diamond 9 cards ask the children to work in groups and try to place the cards into a diamond formation, putting the things that are the most important need (things you cannot do without) closest to the top and the things that are less essential or something that is a want towards the bottom. Some may be both wants and needs, these can take the centre positions. There is a blank diamond for them to substitute one of their own ideas.
- They will need to discuss and negotiate the position of the cards and try to reach a consensus. It is this process that is the key point of the activity. It is more important that the issues and differences are discussed rather than deciding on an outcome.
- Encourage them to discuss with the class where they have put them and why they have prioritised the things they have.



*Note: An awareness of the theory of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs may provide useful background for teachers. There is plenty of material on this on the internet. You can use the blank diamond to make your own set of wants and needs, or adapt the content to suit the class.*

**Shelter and  
warmth**

**Toys and  
games**

**Food and  
drinks**

**Fun and  
parties**

**Keeping clean  
and tidy**

**Being  
safe**

**Sleep**

**Holidays  
and trips**

**Feeling  
happy**