



Pat Bordman

When is an allowance like bowl of ice cream?

Allowance is a tough issue in this money conscious society. Eager to imitate their elders, children want to be part of the buying scene. And children do have expenses such as presents, school lunches, movies, and other incidentals at an early age. None of this is possible without some pocket money.

Some families solve the money problem by simply handing it out every time the child expresses a wish. The parent decides when and how much is needed, but the child never learns to plan ahead, to budget, to manage. He does learn a lot about the power of money and about dependence.

Other families distribute money to their offspring in exchange for doing chores. The child learns that he can receive compensation for hard work, but he may be deprived of the pride and satisfaction that comes with freely helping out when needed.

The way money at home is handled will set the tone for the child's lifetime relationship with this important commodity. Parents should think carefully about how it will be handled.

Should a child receive an allowance at all? At what age should allowance begin? How much money is a fair amount? Are there responsibilities that go along with it? What expectations do you and your child have regarding the use of the money?

We have only a few short years to influence and guide our children. Whatever decisions are made, they should not deny the values and standards of the parents. By discussing the issue of money and allowance with our children, we can communicate some of our standards.

WHEN IS AN allowance like ice cream? Why, when you're dishing it out, of course.

Here is the recipe for homemade ice cream which should be prepared one day ahead. You will need:

HOMEMADE ICE CREAM
1 cup cream (half and half) ½ cup sugar
1 cup milk pinch salt
1 tsp. vanilla

Simply mix all ingredients together in a bowl. Refrigerate and allow to chill overnight. This makes two to four servings.

The ice cream mixture is liquid until it is crystallized. This is accomplished with a homemade freezer. You will need a 6-ounce juice can, metal preferred. One ½ gallon milk carton, washed and dried. The milk carton should be cut so that it is one inch shorter than the juice can.

You will also need rock salt and crushed ice in a ratio of 4 parts ice to 1 part salt. Place the can in the milk carton. Pour the ice cream mixture into the juice can and cover with a small plastic bag. Secure the bag with a rubber band so that none of the salt mixture gets into the ice cream mixture.

Next, pack the salt mixture around the juice can. Now, remove the plastic bag covering the ice cream mixture. Let the mixture stand until a ring of ice crystals forms around the edge.

Stir the ice cream mixture until it is frozen, about 15 to 20 minutes.

Patricia Bordman, a free-lance writer and photographer, has a master's degree in early childhood education. She has taught elementary school and conducted workshops and lectures. Write her c/o the Observer & Eccentric Newspaper, 36231 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia 48150.

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Learning the value of a dollar is a lot like making ice cream — both require practice.

Fighting double digits practically

Help! Every week the prices in the supermarket go up. I would like some ideas on how to save money. You once published cleaning supply alternatives which I use faithfully. Do you have any other suggestions?

Jan W., Southfield

We all seem to be fighting the battle of the budget. Concern in conjunction with Farmer Jack Markets has published a brochure as a public service that you will find very helpful.

Called "Eco-tips Smart Shopping," it approaches the problems of double-digit inflation from a practical point of view. Consumers faced with an abundance of products in every food category often feel overwhelmed by the cost of keeping the family fed.

This helpful publication offers tips on how to decide which products will give the most nutritional value for the money you spend.

Pick up a copy at your nearest Farmer Jack Market or send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Concern Inc. Detroit, 1 Northfield Plaza, Troy 48068.

What is propylene glycol?

Edward R., Detroit

Propylene glycol is added to cake mixes, baked goods, pet foods, candy and soft drinks to help maintain moisture content and texture. Tests indicate that it is a safe food additive.

ECO-TIP: Bring spring into your living room. Take cutting from the flowering bushes in your garden. Forsythias work especially well. Cut into the stem with a sharp knife and place in vases. Change

Ah, spring:
oh, tornadoes

Spring is approaching, and following close behind are severe thunderstorms and tornadoes.

This year, as in years past, Governor Milliken has set aside the third week in March as "Michigan Tornado Safety Week."

Radio station WPON, the National Weather Service, and the Oakland County Disaster Control will present a

consumer mailbag

the water every day and keep out of bright light until the buds open.

Consumer Mailbag answers your question on environmental and consumer subjects. Address mail to Grace R. Gluskin, Concern Inc. Detroit, 1 Northfield Plaza, Troy 48068.

one-hour program, "Tornado Safety." The presentation will include a discussion on what is known about tornadoes, safety rules, severe storms and what information you can get from listening to WPON.

The programs will be held at 10 a.m. March 16, 2 p.m. March 17 and 7:30 p.m. March 18, in the Oakland County Commissioners' Auditorium.

volunteers

The Oakland County Volunteer Bureau, a program of the Volunteer Action Center of United Community Services, has weekly listings of volunteer opportunities. Further information about these and other volunteer needs at over 200 agencies may be obtained by calling the bureau at 642-7272. Any non-profit organization needing volunteer assistance may also call the bureau.

STAFF AIDE — The Greater Detroit Society for the Blind in Detroit, is searching for empathetic adults to read to the visually impaired, and do some light typing and filing. A time commitment of 2½ days per week with flexible days is required. Training is provided.

LEARNING CENTER AIDE — The Macomb Association for Retarded Citizens in Mt. Clemens, is in urgent need of persons with a high school diploma and some college education. Volunteers must be willing to work on a one-to-one basis with a retarded adult. A time commitment of 6-7:30 p.m. Mondays and Fridays six-eight weeks is required. Training is provided.

APPEALS COORDINATOR — A volunteer with experience in creative writing and an ability to organize and keep records is needed by the Oakland County Volunteer bureau in Birmingham. The Appeals Coordinator will write weekly needs for area newspapers based on job requests supplied by Oakland County Agencies needing volunteers. Some light typing is required. Time commitment is three-four hours a week plus attend a monthly staff meeting.

TRANSPORTERS — Persons with a valid drivers license and an automobile are being recruited by the Royal Oak Senior Citizen Center, to transport seniors to shopping and other necessary errands in and around Royal Oak. This is a flexible commitment that can be scheduled as little as once a month.

Sheila Mitchell an 86 year old survivor of the ocean liner Britannic which sank in 1916, answered a Want Ad placed by Jacques Courtieu who plans to explore the wreck. He wanted survivors to help him find his way around but Mitchell not sick when the bandied his research ship

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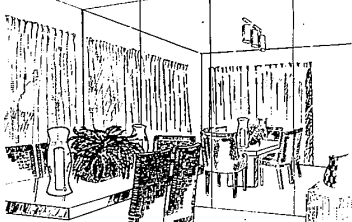
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