

## **Get Hooked on Saving**

Learning to save, even as you pay off bills, is an important part of managing money. Once you have experienced the satisfaction of getting something you have saved for, it is easier to continue. Putting money into savings each month for emergencies or for something you want gives you more control.

What do you need?

A sheet of paper and pencil.

A container for savings—a jar with a screw on lid, coffee can or purchased “piggy bank” will work.

What do we do?

1. Make a list of 4-6 items you/families members would like to have. Each item should cost less than \$100.00.
2. Look over the list, each family member vote for item they would most like to save for now. Item with the most votes is selected.
3. Use store ads, magazine pictures or draw a picture of the item. Tape or glue the pictures to the container.
4. Check store prices and determine exactly how much money is needed to buy the item. Label the container with this amount.
5. Make a plan to start saving the money needed for the item.
  - Save certain coins like dimes or quarters.
  - Save change at the end of each day.
  - Spend less on an expense—take a lunch to work and put money you would have spent in the jar, get video from library, put money for video rental in jar, make a pizza
  - At home, subtract the cost of ingredients from the price of having a pizza delivered, put the difference in the jar.
  - Collect aluminum cans, sell them and put money in the jar.
6. Once a week, meet together, and count the money in the jar.
7. When there is enough money to buy the item, plan a trip to make the purchase and celebrate.
8. Keep the jar and decide on the next item you want to save for.

*It can be fun to save for what you want.*

